20231/A

Plâs-Heaton.

46

10 vols.
25/-

80581.

A DESCRIPTION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

CONTAINING

A particular ACCOUNT of each COUNTY,

WITH ITS

ANTIQUITIES,	SOILS,	TOWNS,
CURIOSITIES,	FOSSILS,	PALACES,
SITUATION,	CAVERNS,	SEATS,
FIGURE,	PLANTS and MINERALS,	CORPORATIONS,
EXTENT,	AGRICULTURE,	MARKETS,
CLIMATE,	CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS,	FAIRS,
RIVERS,	CITIES,	MANUFACTURES,
LAKES,		TRADE,
MINERAL WATERS,		SIEGES,
		BATTLES,

AND THE

LIVES of the illuſtrious MEN each COUNTY has produced.

Embelliſhed with two hundred and forty COPPER PLATES,

OF

PALACES, CASTLES, CATHEDRALS;

THE

Ruins of ROMAN and SAXON BUILDINGS;

AND OF

ABBEYS, MONASTERIES, and other RELIGIOUS HOUSES.

Beſides a Variety of CUTS of

URNS, INSCRIPTIONS, and other ANTIQUITIES.

VOL. I.

LONDON:

Printed for NEWBERY and CARNAN, No. 65, the North Side of St. Paul's Church-yard.

M DCC LXIX.

WELLCOME
HISTORICAL
MEDICAL
LIBRARY

THE INTRODUCTION.

GREAT BRITAIN is not only the largeſt iſland in Europe; but the moſt populous, rich and powerful iſland in the known world. South Britain, of which we here treat, comprehends England and Wales; and extends northward to the 55th degree 40 minutes, north latitude, where it is divided from North Britain, or Scotland, by the river Tweed. On the eaſt it is bounded by the German ocean; on the ſouth by the Britiſh channel, which divides it from France, and on the weſt by St. George's channel, which divides it from Ireland. It is 400 meaſured miles in length from Berwick upon Tweed to Chicheſter, and 370 in breadth from Dover to the Land's-end in Cornwall.

England derived its name from the Eaſt Angles of Jutland, who joined the Saxons in the conqueſt of this country; and Wales, the weſt part of South Britain, was thus called from a Saxon word ſignifying the land of Foreigners, and thus Italy is ſtill called by the Germans *Welſchland*.

England has its coaſt happily indented, ſo as to form a variety of bays and harbours, that are of the greateſt advantage to commerce, and has many navigable rivers, that not only fertilize the ground, but convey the riches of all the other nations of the earth into the heart of the king-

dom: the principal of theſe are the Thames, the Medway, the Severn, the Trent, the Tyne, the Tees, the Eden, the Lower Avon, the Ribble and the Merſey.

The country is ſubject to ſeveral natural advantages and diſadvantages as an iſland: the atmoſphere is generally loaded with vapours; and the weather is extremely various, perpetually changing from heat to cold, and from wet to dry. There is even ſometimes no ſunſhine for ſeveral days together; though at the ſame time there is no rain; but from this general humidity, the earth is covered with a fine continual verdure ſeen in no country on the continent of Europe. The air is generally ſalubrious, except in the low lands; the cold is much leſs ſevere in winter, and the heat leſs violent in ſummer, than in any part of the continent in the ſame latitude; and the greateſt part of the country exhibits to view a delightful variety of plains, gently ſwelling hills, corn-fields, meadow grounds, wood and water. Flouriſhing cities, thriving towns, populous villages, and the ſeats of the nobility and gentry, are ſeen in every part of the kingdom.

Wales is a very mountainous country; but the ſides of the hills, the fertile valleys, and plains, are extremely beautiful, and being frequently intermingled with lofty mountains, rocks and precipices, afford a variety of the moſt romantic and enchanting proſpects.

Though England is in general a champain country, Cornwall, Cumberland, Weſtmoreland, and the Peak in Derbyſhire, are mountainous, and ſeveral lofty mountains are ſcattered through ſome other of the weſtern and northern countries; but thongh mauy of them are not fertile, they are rich in minerals. In thoſe of Cornwall are found immenſe

menſe quantities of tin, and other metals. Thoſe of Wales, Derbyſhire, and ſeveral other parts of the kingdom, yield abundance of lead, copper and iron. Quarries of excellent freeſtone are worked in Derbyſhire, Dorſetſhire, and Devonſhire, and immenſe quantities of coals are dug out of the pits in many counties. In Northumberland and Cheſhire are plenty of allum and ſalt pits, and alſo ſalt ſprings.

England generally excels every country in Europe in plenty of corn; for the arable lands annually produce above thirty-five millions of buſhels of wheat, a great part of which is uſually exported. In this kingdom is likewiſe raiſed the ſame quantity of barley; partly for ale and beer, and partly for the diſtilling of Britiſh ſpirits. From the poorer grounds are likewiſe raiſed great quantities of rye, oats, peas, beans and vetches. In Eſſex and Cambridgeſhire are extenſive fields of excellent ſaffron. In Bucks and Bedfordſhire is produced woad for dying; and Kent, Eſſex, Surry and Hampſhire, are adorned with conſiderable plantations of hops. But the produce of this kingdom will be beſt ſeen in the deſcription of the ſeveral counties: we ſhall only add here on this ſubject, that England is famous for its cattle, and the ſheep in particular, are ſo numerous, that twelve millions of fleeces are annually ſhorn and manufactured in this kingdom; the woollen manufacture being the ſtaple commodity of England.

The conſtitution of England is a limited monarchy, and with all its defects, is the beſt that ever ſubſiſted in any part of the world. The legiſlative power is happily veſted in the king, lords and commons, aſſembled in parliament, and the concurrence of each is neceſſary to the making

of every law. A new parliament is choſen once in ſeven years, in conſequence of writs iſſued by the king, who has alſo power to prorogue and diſſolve this aſſembly at pleaſure, and likewiſe to refuſe his aſſent to any bill, without giving a reaſon for his refuſal. His revenue for the ſupport of his houſhold, the payment of foreign miniſters, and the other purpoſes in which he may think proper to employ it, amounts to 800,000 l. a year. He has the power of creating peers, of appointing all the great officers of ſtate, and of beſtowing all the lucrative employments civil and military. He contracts alliances, declares war, levies troops, augments the navy, and concludes peace; and, in ſhort, by his own power and authority, conducts the whole adminiſtration of the government. He can graciouſly pardon offenders, but has no authority to take away the life or property of the meaneſt innocent ſubject.

The houſe of lords is compoſed of all the temporal and ſpiritual peers of the realm, the former of whom enjoy their honours by hereditary deſcent, and when one of them is guilty of treaſon, or any other capital crime, he is tried by that auguſt aſſembly. The houſe of lords is alſo the laſt reſort in all civil cauſes of appeal from inferior courts; and no peer is ſubject to perſonal arreſt in actions of debt.

The houſe of commons is compoſed of 558 members: of theſe eighty knights repreſent the forty counties of England; twelve ſtand for the counties of Wales, and thirty for the ſhires of Scotland. The cities of England are repreſented by fifty citizens; the boroughs, by 339 burgeſſes; the two univerſities by four members; and the 8 cinque ports by 16 barons. Wales returns 12 burgeſſes, and Scotland 15. The houſe of commons raiſes all the ſupplies of the year, accord-

according to the exigencies of the government, and in this privilege they will not allow the lords to interfere. They impoſe taxes, grant ſubſidies, and limit the number of land forces, ſhips and ſeamen, for the ſervice of the year. They have power to take the neceſſary ſteps for the improvement of commerce, the encouragement of manufactures, and the advantage of the community. They call for papers and records, bring in bills of attainder, and may impeach even peers at the bar of the upper houſe. They ſpeak boldly without any other controul than that of their ſpeaker, whom they elect at the beginning of every parliament.

The liberty and privileges of every ſubject are confirmed by the Magna Charta, and the Bill of Rights. The moſt valuable of theſe is the trial by juries, and the writ of *habeas corpus*, by means of which any perſon can demand the cauſe of his commitment, or inſtant releaſe. The people cannot be taxed without their own conſent; that is, without the conſent of a majority of their repreſentatives in parliament. Soldiers cannot be quartered in the houſes of private perſons, without the conſent of the owners; and every individual may diſpoſe of his own effects as he pleaſes, either by will, deed, or conveyance.

The judges of England are twelve in number, and are appointed by the king, but that they may not be influenced by the crown, they enjoy their offices for life. The courts held at Weſtminſter are thoſe of the Common-pleas, King's-bench, Chancery, Exchequer, and the Dutchy court of Lancaſter. The court of Common-pleas, which is held by a lord chief juſtice, and three other judges, tries all civil cauſes, real, perſonal and mixed, between ſubject and ſubject. The court of King's-bench, is the higheſt court of common

law

law in the kingdom, and is under the lord chief juſtice of the King's-bench, alſo ſtiled the Lord chief juſtice of England, who is aſſiſted by three inferior judges. This court takes cognizance of every thing that concerns the loſs of life or member of any ſubject, of treaſons, felonies, breaches of the peace, oppreſſion and miſgovernment; it has power to rectify errors and miſtakes in the ſentences and proceedings of all the judges and juſtices of England, and to ſuperintend all pleas, except thoſe in the Exchequer. The court of Chancery is a court of equity, held by the lord high chancellor of England, who is keeper of the great ſeal, ſpeaker of the houſe of lords, and the firſt civil officer in the kingdom: it was inſtituted as a court of equity to mitigate the rigour of the common law; and from this court iſſues writs of ſummons for parliament, charters, protections, and patents for ſheriffs, and in chancery are ſealed and enrolled all letters patent, treaties with foreign princes, and deeds touching the purchaſe of eſtates. The lord chancellor has twelve aſſiſtants called maſters in chancery, the chief of whom is named maſter of the rolls. The court of Exchequer is held by the lord chief baron, and three other barons, beſides a puiſne baron. The Exchequer includes two courts, one of law, and the other of equity, and here all cauſes relating to the revenue and rights of the crown are heard and determined. The court of the dutchy chamber of Lancaſter conſiſts of the chancellor of the dutchy as chief judge, aſſiſted by the attorney of the dutchy and other officers, and takes cognizance of all cauſes relating to the revenue of that dutchy, which is now annexed to the crown.

The twelve judges not only adminiſter juſtice in the courts of the metropolis, but likewiſe twice a year hold aſſizes all over the kingdom. For this purpoſe

purpoſe England is divided into ſix circuits, and two judges are allotted for each. Wales is comprehended in four circuits, for which other judges are aſſigned. Theſe ſit at the principal town of every county, to hear and determine civil and criminal cauſes.

England was originally divided by king Alfred about the year 896, into thirty-two counties or ſhires, which were afterwards encreaſed to forty; and theſe, with the addition of twelve into which Wales was afterwards divided, make the preſent number fifty-two. Theſe counties we ſhall here give in the ſeveral circuits in which they are contained.

I. Home circuit.	Eſſex, Hertfordſhire, Surry, Suſſex, and Kent.
II. Norfolk circuit.	Buckinghamſhire, Bedfordſhire, Huntingdonſhire, Cambridgeſhire, Norfolk, and Suffolk.
III. Midland circuit.	Warwickſhire, Leiceſterſhire, Derbyſhire, Nottinghamſhire, Rutlandſhire, and Northamptonſhire.
IV. Oxford circuit.	Berkſhire, Oxfordſhire, Glouceſterſhire, Monmouthſhire, Herefordſhire, Shropſhire, Staffordſhire, and Worceſterſhire.
V. Weſtern circuit.	Hampſhire, Wiltſhire, Dorſetſhire, Somerſetſhire, Cornwall, and Devonſhire.

VI. Northern

VI. Northern circuit.	Yorkſhire, Durham, Northumberland, Cumberland, Weſtmoreland, and Lancaſhire.

Middleſex and Cheſhire are not included in any of the circuits; the former containing the ſupreme courts of juſtice, and the latter being a county palatine.

Wales is divided into four circuits, which with their reſpective counties are as follow:

North-eaſt circuit.	Flint, Denbigh, Montgomery.
North-weſt circuit.	Angleſea, Carnarvon, Merioneth.
South-eaſt circuit.	Radnor, Brecon, Glamorgan.
South-weſt circuit.	Pembroke, Cardigan, Caermarthen.

Beſides the above counties, into which England and Wales is at preſent divided, there are counties corporate, or certain diſtricts to which the liberties and juriſdictions peculiar to a county, have been granted by charter from the king. Thus the city of London is a county diſtinct from Middleſex, and York, Cheſter, Norwich, Briſtol, Worceſter, Nottingham, Kingſton upon Hull, and ſeveral other towns are counties of themſelves, diſtinct from the counties in which they are ſeated.

The ancient diviſion of counties into hundreds, and of hundreds into tythings ſtill remains: though the hundreds were a diſtrict which originally contained only a hundred families, and the tythings a diſtrict that contained but ten families. In Yorkſhire the hundreds are called Wapentakes; from *wapentach*, a name anciently given to an hundred; from the ceremony of touching weapons;

pons; for when a governor of an hundred was appointed, the houſe-keepers of the hundred meeting him, ſeverally touched his ſpear with theirs, to ſhew that they had one common cauſe to defend. The ſubdiviſions of Suſſex are termed Rapes, and thoſe of Kent Lathes.

Every county has a ſheriff, annually appointed by the king, except where the office has been made either elective or hereditary by charter. The duty of the ſheriff is to execute the king's writs or mandates, to attend the judges, ſee their ſentences executed, and to give judgment in petty cauſes determined in the county court. In every county there are alſo juſtices of the peace, who take cognizance of felonies, treſpaſſes, and other miſdemeanors, and in cities and large boroughs, the peace is generally preſerved by a mayor, aldermen and common council, though there are a few exceptions.

With reſpect to the eccleſiaſtical diviſions of England and Wales, theſe conſiſt of provinces, dioceſes, and pariſhes: a province is under the juriſdiction of an archbiſhop; a dioceſe, of a biſhop; and a pariſh is ſuppoſed to be under the care of a prieſt. In South Britain are two provinces, Canterbury and York; twenty-two dioceſes in England, and four in Wales, of which twenty-two are in the province of Canterbury, and four in the province of York.

The prieſt of a pariſh is allowed tythes, beſides a piece of land, appointed for his ſeparate uſe, called a Glebe; hence a pariſh, conſidered as affording maintenance to the miniſter, is called a *Benefice*. Some of theſe benefices were anciently appropriated to certain religious houſes, colleges, or biſhopricks, which enjoyed the revenue, and appointed an eccleſiaſtic to perform the duty termed the cure of ſouls, either for a part of the

the tythes or a certain ſalary; but when the religious houſes were diſſolved at the reformation, the appropriated benefices of which they were poſſeſſed came into the hands of laymen, and were called Impropriations; appropriated benefices were alſo called Vicarages, and unappropriated, Rectories. There are in England and Wales 9284 pariſhes, of which 3845 are impropriations or vicarages, and the remainder amounting to 5439 pariſhes are rectories.

We ſhall now proceed to a particular deſcription of all the counties of England and Wales, and that the reader may readily, upon all occaſions, have recourſe to any particular county, without the trouble of ſearching the contents of each volume, we have placed them in alphabetical order.

A DE-

A DESCRIPTION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

The ISLAND *of* ANGLESEA.

THIS iſland obtained its preſent name in the reign of king Edward I. when it was conquered by the Engliſh, who called it Engleſea and Angleſey (the Engliſh Iſland). The Romans named it Mona; the Britons, Môn, and Tir Môn; i. e. *the land of Mon*; and Ynis Dowyth, or *the ſhady iſland*, and the Saxons called it Moneg. It is ſituated at the north-weſt extremity of the principality of Wales; the diſtance from Beaumaris in the eaſt, to Holyhead in the weſt, is 27 miles, five furlongs; but the whole length of the iſland is 30 miles, and the breadth, from north to ſouth, 26 miles. The old accounts make it only 24 miles long and 17 broad; but then it muſt be conſidered they were computed miles. A narrow ſtrait ſeparates it from the continent, by ſome improperly called the river of Menai; but it is every where elſe ſurrounded by the raging Iriſh ſea.

Notwithſtanding Angleſea is the moſt fruitful country for wheat in all Wales, Mon mam gymry, i. e. *Môn is the nurſery of Wales*, being a common proverb, becauſe in times of ſcarcity, it ſupplied the whole principality with corn, yet the general aſpect of the iſland is not very inviting, as it appears to be hilly, ſtony and dry. The air is healthy; but ſomewhat aguiſh in the autumnal ſeaſon, for the ſame reaſon as in ſome parts of Eſſex and Kent, tho' not to ſo great a degree.

The rivers are the Gweer, the Keveny, the Alow, the Brant, and the Dulas. The iſland abounds in corn, cattle, and moſt of the neceſſaries of life, and other commodities, which will be taken notice of in the enſuing pages. It contains ſix hundreds, two market towns, viz. Beaumaris and Newburgh, 1840 houſes, about 12000 inhabitants, 74 pariſhes, and the number of villages was formerly 363. When the land-tax is two ſhillings in the pound, it pays yearly 816l. 13s. 11½d. Angleſea, is in the province of Canterbury and dioceſe of Bangor. It ſends two members to parliament, one for the county and the other for Beaumaris; and gives the title of earl to the noble family of Anneſley.

BEAUMARIS, the principal town, (ſo named from a French word, which ſignifies *a beautiful moraſs*, being ſituated in a mooriſh ſpot, near the ſea) is neat, flouriſhing, and well-built, ſeated on the weſtern bank of the ſtrait Menai, in the road to Holyhead, from whence it is near 28 miles eaſt, and 241 north-weſt from London. It was founded by king Edward I. who changed the name from Bonover to Beaumaris, and fortified it with a ſtrong handſome caſtle, ſome parts of which ſtill remain, and make a good appearance: but a better idea may be formed of this fortreſs,

by

Vol. I Page 2.

The North View of Beaumaris Castle in the Isle of Anglesey.

by an examination of the plate, than by a verbal deſcription. It now belongs to the crown.

The town has two good ſtreets, an handſome church, and a county goal. The corporation is governed by a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, 21 burgeſſes, a town-clerk, and two ſerjeants at mace. The market days are Wedneſday and Saturday; and the four fairs, on Feb. 5, Holy-Thurſday, Sept. 19, Dec. 19, all for cattle.

Being an excellent and well ſituated harbour, Beaumaris was formerly, and ſtill might be, a place of good trade, had the inhabitants a turn for commerce; but their attention is fixed on agriculture, and a traveller muſt be ſurprized, when he obſerves, here and there, in this iſland, ſmall ſpots of land cultivated on the ſide of a ſteep hill, where it would ſeem impoſſible for an horſe to aſcend, or, when he gets to the top, to plough land that has ſo great a ſlope: but the furrows extend along the ſides of the hills, and not upwards and downwards; for was this to be attempted, plough and horſe would both tumble to the bottom. This remark holds true, not only with reſpect to the iſle of Angleſea, but to North-Wales in general; and it is a pleaſing ſight to ſee the corn waving on high, encompaſſed above and below, by a mixture of bare rocks, weeds and ſhrubs. The inhabitants have corn, butter and cheeſe in plenty: all the coaſt abounds with oyſters, muſcles, cockles, and other kinds of fiſh. At Prieſtholm iſland, which lies almoſt cloſe to the ſhore, about five miles diſtant, north, they have birds of paſſage, called Puffins, which are pickled and ſold at a conſiderable price: nay numbers of them are conveyed even to London, where they are eſteemed a delicacy.

At PENMON, to the N. E. of Beaumaris, and in its neighbourhood, are quarries of mill-ſtones

of the grit kind, great quantities of which are exported: alſo a good harbour for ſhipping, a conſiderable herring fiſhery; and oyſters, which are fat, large, and remarkably fine, when pickled.

Penmon priory, was a houſe for minor canons of the order of St. Auguſtine, dedicated to St. Mary, and founded by Gwynedd, king of the Britons, in the year 540. The prior was one of the three ſpiritual lords of Angleſea, and the yearly value, at the diſſolution, was 40l. 17s. 9½d. The ruins are ſtill to be ſeen near Penmon.

NEWBURGH, (in Britiſh Rhos vair) is ſituated between the mouths of the rivers Brant and Keveney, and is the moſt conſiderable town on the iſland, except Beaumaris, from which it is about 16 miles diſtant to the S. W. But it has been in a much more flouriſhing ſtate than at preſent, and its decay is ſaid to be owing to the heaps of ſand thrown up about it by the ſea. The government of this town is in the hands of a mayor, recorder, and two bailiffs; the market is on Tueſday; and the five fairs, on June 22, Aug. 10, and 21, Sept. 25, and Nov. 11, all for cattle. At Tre' Varthira, not far from Newburgh, a large gold medal of Julius Conſtantius was found, in the year 1680, of which this is a repreſentation.

HOLYHEAD,

The South View of Holyhead Collegiate Church in the Isle of Anglesey.

Vol. I. Page 5.

HOLYHEAD, is ſituated in a peninſula at the weſtern extremity of the iſland, oppoſite to Dublin, noted for being the ſtation of the packet-boats between England and Ireland, and principally conſiſting of houſes of entertainment, for perſons bound either to or from that kingdom, which make but an indifferent appearance, and are ſcattered up and down in a diſorderly manner.

This town is called Caer Gybi, in Welch, from Kybi, a holy man, who lived about the year 650, and here ended his days. He founded a collegiate church, and the preſident of the college was one of the three ſpiritual lords of Angleſea. The walls of the church-yard are the remains of a Britiſh fortification, built in the year 450. The church was re-built in, or ſoon after the reign of king Edward III. and is at preſent an handſome ſtructure, as may be ſeen by the view of it annexed. Here was alſo a caſtle, with a royal free chapel, valued at 24l. per annum, at the diſſolution.

There was a ſalt-houſe at the entrance of Holy-head harbour, erected in conſequence of an act of parliament made in the ſixth year of the reign of queen Anne, to permit the inhabitants the uſe of rock ſalt, to ſtrengthen the ſea water; but for want of proper management it fell to decay, and at laſt came to nothing. In this harbour, in the year 1747, there were ſhipped 22000 buſhels of all ſorts of corn. The other commodities of Holyhead are butter, cheeſe, bacon, wild fowl, of which there is great plenty; oyſters, lobſters, crabs, razor-fiſh, herrings, cod-fiſh, whitings, whiting-pollacks, coal-fiſh, ſea-tench, turbots, ſoals, flounders, ſcate, thornbacks, &c.

The plant called in Welſh Gwimmon, and by the Engliſh Tang, grows on the ſea rocks, near this harbour, of which the inhabitants make a

great advantage, by burning it to a fixed ſalt, called Kelp, which is uſed in the manufacturing of glaſs, and in the allum works. Samphire, ſo well known for making an excellent pickle, grows upon the rocks and the coaſt.

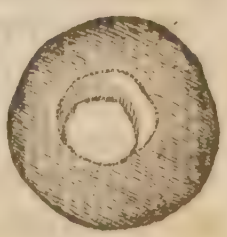
In the neighbourhood of Holyhead, is a large vein of white fuller's earth, and another of yellow, which lying ſo near the ſea might be eaſily exported to diſtant parts. Within a mile of the town, on a hillock, near the road leading to Beaumaris, is a monument, conſiſting of large ſtones, about 20 in number, and between four and five feet high, except two at the northern end, which are ſix feet in height. They ſtand in a farm called Trevigneth, and have no other name than Lhecheu, whence the field in which they are erected is called Caer Lhecheu.

LLANVAIER, a ſmall village, is ſituated where the two roads from Beaumaris and Newburgh to Holyhead meet, and about ſix miles S. E. of the latter. Some workmen digging a well on the premiſes of one Mr. Jones, an inhabitant of Llanvaier, about the middle of March, in the year 1764, found an earthen pot, or Urn, containing 20 pieces of copper Roman coin, nineteen of which were of the emperor Ceraufius, and one of Alectus.

TREGAIAN is ſituated on the banks of the Keveny, within ſomething more than a mile of its ſource, and about ten miles to the N. E. of Aberfraw. This village is chiefly remarkable as the birth-place of WILLIAM DAVID AP HOWEL AP JORWORTH, who was living in it in the year 1581, though he died ſoon after, and was then 105 years of age. He had had three wives and two concubines: the number of his children, lawfully begotten, was 36; of thoſe by his concubines, ſeven. His eldeſt ſon, Griffith ap William,

liam, 84 years old, had a great number of children and grand children; his youngeſt ſon. Griffith ap William, two years old, was alive in the ſaid pariſh, there being 82 years difference between his age and that of his brother: about 88 perſons, deſcended of the old man, were living at the ſame time, and in the ſame place; and it is ſaid there were above 300 perſons in all, ſprung from him, and born in his life-time. He was of mean ſtature, good complexion, ſeldom troubled with any diſorder, moderate in diet, lived by tillage, and frequently exerciſed himſelf in fiſhing and fowling. His hearing, eyeſight, and all his ſenſes continued perfect to his death.

ABERFRAW, on the ſouth-weſt ſide of the iſland, 12 miles S. E. of Holyhead; was formerly a conſiderable place, the reſidence of the princes of North-Wales, who were ſometimes called kings of Aberfraw; but it is now a ſmall village, which coaſting ſloops often frequent, to take in their lading of corn, butter and cheeſe. Oyſters, Whitings, and other fiſh are plenty: the ſand in the neighbourhood is good manure, and is carried on horſes, for that purpoſe, ſome miles into the country. At this village was found one of thoſe glaſs rings, ſuppoſed to have been uſed as charms, or amulets, by the ancient Druids. We have given a repreſentation of it in the annexed cut. They are ſmall glaſs annulets, generally about half as wide as our finger rings, but much thicker, uſually of a green colour, tho' ſome are blue, and others curiouſly waved with blue, red and white. The Welſh call theſe rings Gleineu Nadriſedh, and ſuppoſe them generated by ſnakes; but in Glamorganſhire, and Monmouthſhire, they are



cal'ed Maen magl, and corruptly Glaim, for Glain: the Engliſh, in ſome places, call them Snake-ſtones. An account of ſome others will be found in our deſcriptions of Denbighſhire and Merionethſhire; but a ſtill more extenſive one in the laſt edition of Camden's Britannia, p. 815. At Llanwyvan, in the neighbourhood of Aberfraw, is a quarray of white marble, which takes a good poliſh, and might be uſeful in ſtatuary. Aberfraw has four fairs, on March 7, Wedneſday after Trinity, October 23, and Dec. 19, all for cattle.

LLANNERCHYMEADD is a village, 13 miles N. W. of Beaumaris, which has four fairs, held on Feb. 5, April 25, May 6, and the Thurſday after Trinity, all for cattle.

At Porthaſhuferry, oppoſite Bangor, in Caernarvonſhire, four fairs are held, on Auguſt 26, Sept. 26, Oct. 24, and Nov. 14, all for cattle. At the village of Llanflenell, not far from the mouth of the harbour of Cemlyn, there are four fairs held every year, on Feb. 25, Aug. 5, Nov. 5, and 26, for the ſame: and at Pentreath, near a mile up the river, are four fairs yearly, on May 5, Friday after Trinity, Aug. 16, Oct. 3, and Nov. 12, all for the ſame commodities.

We ſhall now take notice of the moſt remarkable bays and harbours of this iſland, that have not been already mentioned.

RED-WHARF, is a bay and harbour, five miles to the weſt of Beaumaris, and is noted for the lime-ſtone trade carried on to all the neighbouring countries; among which is plenty of grey marble that will bear a fine poliſh. Near it are alſo remarkable quarries of Mill-ſtones, of the grit kind, which are exported; and in the neighbourhood are large, looſe blocks of grey marble; one of which, upon examination, was three feet thick,

thick, nine broad, and twenty-ſeven long. Properly cut, they would make excellent pillars for building. This bay alſo furniſhes rich ſand for manure, which is conveyed in ſmall ſloops round all the coaſt of Angleſea, and ſo fertilizes the land, that it yields large crops of oats and barley. Here are alſo plenty of herrings in the ſeaſon, which bring the inhabitants conſiderable profit.

AMLUCH harbour, is only a ſmall creek or cove on the north ſide of the iſland, between two ſteep rocks, where a veſſel has not room to turn, even at high water: but ſmall veſſels enter it with corn, butter and cheeſe, and the Liverpool pilot boats lie afloat, to be ready to meet any veſſels in the offing. The village of Amluch is ſeated near the ſhore, and has a fair on Nov. 12, for cattle.

DULAS is a bay and harbour much frequented on account of the corn and butter trade, and the herring fiſhery, the mouth of which is on the north-ſide of the iſland, 13 miles N. W. of Beaumaris. Here is plenty of a reddiſh ockery earth, ſomewhat like Spaniſh brown, but bears a far better body. Veins of lead ore, have alſo been lately diſcovered. On all this coaſt they make fern aſhes, which are ſold to ſoap-boilers, glaſs and ſmelting houſes.

CEMLYN, is an harbour only uſed by ſmall veſſels, which trade here for corn, cheeſe and butter. Near this place is a famous quarry of the ſtone called Aſbeſtos, a ſpecies of beautiful marble, out of which is got the Linum aſbeſtinum, called here, the Salamander's wool. It is a ſubſtance reſembling flax, and has been woven into a kind of cloth, that will not burn in a common fire. The antients have frequently mentioned it in their natural hiſtories. There is alſo, a yellow, ſulphurous, copper ore; and at Llandadrig,

about three miles to the eaſt, is a great body or vein of ſtony ochre, of various colours, as red, yellow and blue, and an exceeding fine white clay, proper for painters, potters, &c.

MALLDRATH, is a creek, four miles S. E. of Aberfraw, frequented by ſmall veſſels which come to purchaſe corn, butter, and cheeſe, in great quantities, with moſt kinds of fiſh. Here is free-ſtone for building, and at Llangeinwin, veins of lead ore, plenty of a heavy ruddy ſpar, probably containing metal, and a green ſtone variegated with red and white ſpots, which will bear a poliſh. A ſort of ſea-ſpurge is found in the creek, with which they dye their wool yellow. Up the river are ſeveral coal pits, which they can only ſink a few yards deep, on account of the water, which fills the works, and they have no engines to extract it. One vein of this coal is free and bituminous, to which ſome give the name of run coal, becauſe it ſoon moulders in the open air. A ſecond is very hard, reſembling the ſtone coal of Pembrokeſhire; a third of kennel coal; and a fourth, which reſembles culm, but is not of the culm kind, becauſe it will cake on the fire. Mr. Morris, who ſurveyed this iſland, thinks great profit might be made of theſe mines, if all the low grounds were drained.

Two miles from the N. W. point of Angleſea, and about nine miles north of Holyhead harbour, is a ſmall iſland called SKERRIES. Upon this iſland a light-houſe is erected, the light of which may be ſeen at the diſtance of ſeven or eight leagues, and is of great uſe to navigators. The birds called Puffins, breed here in great numbers; a flock of them comes annually, all in one night, and depart in the ſame manner, at the proper ſeaſon of the following year. Sea-

tenches,

tenches, and variety of other fiſh are here in great plenty, ſome of which are taken by angling, from the cliffs of the rocks; and in the ſummer time coal-fiſh abound ſo, that the men belonging to the light-houſe ſtand upon the point of the rock and frequently take them up with baſkets, as they are paſſing by.

Moſt parts of the iſland of Angleſea yield honey, wax, tallow, hides, woollen and linen cloth: but the chief trade is in corn and cattle. It was obſerved above an hundred years ſince, that this iſland ſent 3000 head of cattle yearly to the Engliſh markets; at preſent they ſend above 15000; 5000 hogs, and a great number of ſheep. After all the fairs are over, it is computed they have a ſtock of cattle of at leaſt 30000. They feed on ſhort graſs, which renders the beef ſolid and ſweet, and very proper to victual ſhips for long voyages. This iſland, it is ſaid, was formerly covered with woods, and for that reaſon much frequented and inhabited by the Druids, of whom there are ſeveral monuments ſtill remaining. At Tre'r Druw is one conſiſting of upright ſtones, in form reſembling an horſe-ſhoe, including an area of twenty paces diameter, and was, in the opinion of Borlaſe, the learned and very diſcerning author of the hiſtory and antiquities of Cornwall, a theatre, erected by the Druids, for the exhibition of plays, or ſomewhat like them, there having been ſeats and benches in the circular part of it, to accommodate the ſpectators. Theſe ſtones are twelve in number, each 12 feet high, and eight broad. This monument is called Bryn-gwin, or Supreme-court; and ſometimes Kerig y Brin-gwin, or Brin-gwin ſtones. Some, and perhaps with yet more probability, have conjectured it was intended for a temple; and Mr. Maſon, probably had it in his thoughts,

thoughts, when he thus painted the Druids temple in his Caractacus.

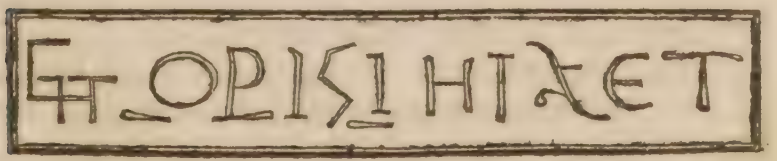
Behold yon oak,
How ſtern he frowns, and with his broad brown arms
Chills the pale plain beneath him: mark yon altar
The dark ſtream brawling round its rugged baſe,
Theſe cliffs, theſe yawning caverns, this wide circus,
Skirted with unhewn ſtone . . .
Theſe mighty piles of magic planted rock,
Thus ranged in myſtic order, mark the place
Where but at times of holieſt feſtival
The Druid leads his train. There dwells the ſeer
In yonder ſhaggy cave on which the moon
Now ſheds a ſide-long gleam. His brotherhood
Poſſeſs the neighbouring cliffs . . .
Mine eye deſcries a diſtant range of caves
Delv'd in the ridges of the craggy ſteep:
And this way ſtill another. On the left
Reſide the ſages ſkilled in Nature's lore:
The changeful univerſe, its numbers, powers,
Studious they meaſure, ſave when meditation
Gives place to holy rites: then in the grove
Each hath his rank and function. Yonder grots
Are tenanted by Bards, who nightly thence,
Rob'd in their flowing veſts of innocent white,
Deſcend, with harps that glitter to the moon,
Hymning immortal ſtrains.

At Bad-Owyr, is a ſepulchral monument, by the Welch called a Kromlech, from Krwm, *ſomewhat convex*, and Lhech, *a flat ſtone*. They are generally formed of rough, unhewn ſtones; but this is neatly wrought, and pointed into ſeveral angles. It is ſuppoſed by ſome, to be the

Mauſoleum

Mauſoleum of Bronwen, king Lhyr's daughter, who lived in the year of the world 3105; but this opinion is not ſupported by ſufficient authority. The length is ſeven feet, breadth ſix feet, and the ſame in thickneſs. The upper ſtone is a detruncated pyramid, and flat at the top: we have here exhibited the figure of it. There are but 3 of theſe kromlech's now remaining in this iſland: one of which is eleven feet and a half high, four broad, and fourteen inches thick; the ſecond is 12 feet high, and four broad; and the third is ten feet high, eight broad, and but ſix inches thick.

There are very few ſtones in Angleſea with inſcriptions; two only being taken notice of: one, a ſquare pillar, in the pariſh of Lhan Babo, about 10 feet high, one broad and nearly as thick; but now broken. The inſcription thereon was legible; but difficult to underſtand. We have annexed a cut of it, from the laſt edition of Camden's Britannia. The copy of this inſcription was ſent to biſhop Gibſon, the editor, by the Rev. Mr. Humphreys, rector of Lhan Vecheth. The monument is called Maen Lhanol, and was probably ſepulchral; the words *Hic jacet*, according to all appearance, ending the inſcription.



The

The other is near Newburgh, part of the inſcription on which may be read, which is, *Filius Ulrici erexit hunc lapidem: The ſon of Ulric erected this ſtone* Whence it ſhould appear to be a Daniſh, or Norwegian monument; for the name is not Britiſh.

Other monuments which conſiſt of vaſt rude ſtones, laid together in circular order, incloſing an area five yards in diameter, called by the inhabitants Iriſh cottages or huts, are alſo found in Angleſea; but from the preſent appearance 'tis difficult to decide whether they were Druid temples or ſepulchral monuments. There are ſeveral places denominated Gwydhel, i. e. Iriſh; but we cannot ſay upon what account, as there are no hiſtories to inform us.

Over the church door of Llangud waladr, N. W. of Newburgh, is a ſtone with the following inſcription, in very antique characters, in memory of Kadras, who was prince of North-Wales, about the middle of the ſixth century. *Catamanus rex ſapientiſſimus opinatiſſimus omnium Regum.*

Lewelin ap Jorwerth, prince of North-Wales, before the year 1210, founded a monaſtery of friars minors, dedicated to St. Francis, at Lhanvaes, or Lhanddwyn, near Beaumaris, to which there belonged a large track of land; but, except one ſmall tenement, it is now all covered with ſand hills, and lying on the Iriſh ſea, is a noted land mark for ſeamen. A prince of the ſame name, founded, before the year 1221, a priory of black monks, at Prieſtholm.

The antient inhabitants of Angleſea, as indeed all of North-Wales, were known to the Romans by the denomination of Ordovices, of whom frequent mention is made in the accounts of the Britiſh wars. Paulinus Suetonius firſt attempted

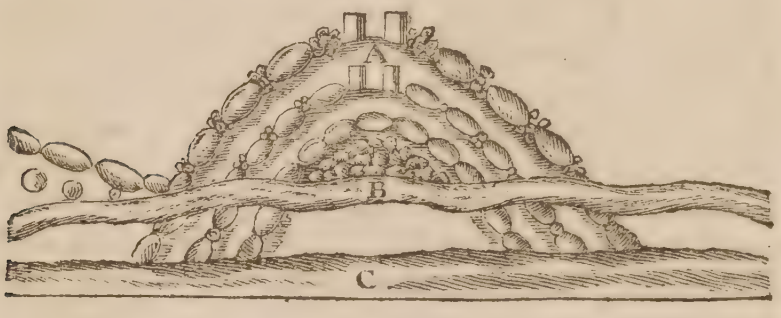
to

to ſubjugate it to the Romans, in the reign of Nero, when, according to Tacitus, it was a very populous country. He paſſed his troops over the ſtrait Menai, having prepared flat-bottomed boats for that purpoſe, being ignorant of the depth. Some of his cavalry, however, waded thro' it, and others ſwam over, holding their horſes bridles in their hands. The inhabitants, inſpired by the Druids, waited to receive them, in good order, and with great firmneſs; among them were women, attired like furies, who ran up and down with lighted torches in their hands, their hair diſheveled, hanging about their ſhoulders, and ſurrounded by the venerable Druids, who, with hands uplifted to Heaven, uttered the moſt dreadful imprecations. A ſight, which had ſomewhat ſo awfully aſtoniſhing, at firſt put the Romans to a ſtand, who were ſufficiently ſuperſtitious themſelves; they continued ſome time like ſtocks, and made little reſiſtance. At length, however, animated by their general, who repreſented to them the ſhame and diſgrace of being thus terrified by a rabble of frantic women and prieſts, they advanced their enſigns, and ſoon vanquiſhed their oppoſers, thruſting them into their own fires. They then left a garriſon upon the ſpot, and cut down the groves conſecrated to their ſuperſtitious rites.

The author of Mona Antiqua Reſtaurata, thinks there are probable grounds to ſuppoſe the field of battle to be near Porthamel, betwixt a place called Pwll y fuwch, and Llaniden. Near it, he adds, are the ruins of two or three ſmall Britiſh towns, which, in all likelihood, were then demoliſhed; and in one of theſe, Caer Idris, on the top of Gwydryn hill, it is probable the Romans built their fort (it being a place of ſtrength, and conſpicuous to the whole iſland) and in it placed their garriſon. It is a Roman

work

work of an half-moon form, guarded by a tripple wall, and defended on the back by a precipice. We have given a repreſentation of it from that author.



A, *the gates.* B, *the highway.* C, *the precipice.*

The Romans afterwards abandoned the iſland, on account of a general revolt in Britain; but it was recovered again by Julius Agricola, without bloodſhed. The part of the ſtrait the Romans are ſuppoſed to have paſſed over, is between Lhan-vair is Gaer, in Caernarvonſhire, and Lhan-Idan, in Angleſea; and oppoſite this paſſage, on the north ſide of Newburgh, is a hill with two ſummits, called Guidrin, on one of which are the ruins of an ancient fort, ſuppoſed to be Roman; and on the other, a pit ſunk in the rock, about nine feet diameter, filled up with pure ſand; but what it was deſigned for is uncertain. About a mile from the paſſage, are Tre'r Druw, and Tre'r Beirdh; i. e. *Druid's-Town*, and *Bard's-Town*; near which is a ſquare fortification, probably one of the firſt works of the Romans after their landing there. At no great diſtance from this fort is a round Britiſh fortification, of a conſiderable height; ſuppoſed to be erected by the inhabitants, to defend them againſt the Roman invaders.

This

This iſland has underwent various revolutions, ſince it was finally abandoned by the Romans, of which there are no diſtinct accounts extant. All that we can aſcertain is, that it was invaded by the Iriſh, by the Anglo-Saxons, and by the Norwegians; and that king Ethelred ſailed round the coaſt in the year 1000, and plundered the inhabitants. In the year 945, a battle was fought, between Howeldha, king of Wales, and Kynan ap Edwal Voel, wherein Kynan was vanquiſhed: after which Grufydth, his ſon, renewed hoſtilities, and was likewiſe defeated. Next, Kyngar, a powerful man was driven out of the iſland; who was the laſt enemy Howeldha had to cope with.

The country was greatly oppreſſed by Hugh earl of Cheſter, and Hugh earl of Salop, about the year 1098, who, to keep it in ſubjection, built the caſtle of Aber Lhienawg; but Magnus, the Norwegian, coming to the iſland, about the ſame time, ſhot the earl of Cheſter through the body with an arrow, pillaged, and forſook it. The Engliſh afterwards attempted ſeveral times to reduce it, but unſucceſsfully, till the reign of Edward I. when it was entirely ſubdued, and annexed to the crown of England.

As Angleſea was the principal ſeat of the antient Britiſh Druids, whoſe religion, ceremonies, and cuſtoms, have ſo long employed the reſearches of our moſt ſkilful antiquaries, and in a very particular manner thoſe of the learned author of Mona Antiqua Reſtaurata, who, in proof that the education and maxims thoſe ſages beſtowed upon their pupils were productive of the moſt happy effects, amongſt others, inſtances in the Britiſh king Caractacus; we ſhall, as no improper addition, ſay ſomewhat of that heroic prince.

For above nine years Caractacus kept the Roman legions in continual terror: at length he was

defeated

defeated in Shropſhire, by Oſtorius, and through the treachery of the queen of the Brigantes, delivered up to the conqueror, who ſent him priſoner to Rome. His behaviour under his bonds was truly noble and magnanimous, and a proof of the excellent diſcipline in which he had been nurtured.

He bore all the taunts and inſults of his enemies with patience and fortitude; and was that very object ſo pleaſing to heaven, and ſo reverenced on earth,

> A brave man ſtruggling with the ſtorms of fate,
> And greatly falling, with a ſinking ſtate!

When, with his wife, daughters, brothers, and the other Britiſh captives, he paſſed before the emperor Claudius, who was ſeated on his throne, in all the exulting pride of victory, his countenance betrayed no unmanly dejection; and when he came near the emperor, in a voice ſuited to the occaſion, he thus addreſſed that prince, then the maſter of his life, and what was dearer to Caractacus, of his liberty.

"If in the flattering days which ſhowered "unnumbered bleſſings upon me; if exalted in "rank, and when all the delights of life were "ſpread before me, the moderation of my mind "had been conſpicuous; I might have viſited "this great metropolis, this miſtreſs of the "world, as a friend, and not diſgracefully been "led before you, as a miſerable captive. You "might without the leaſt diſhonour, have con-"tracted a league with a prince, whoſe deſcent "was royal, and who commanded many and "powerful nations. Now, O Cæſar! how "different my condition and ſituation! The "ſplendor and glory of your majeſty, is a ſad "contraſt to my melancholy appearance. Yet,

poſſeſſed

" poſſeſſed of the ſinews of war, of immenſe " riches, of horſes, chariots, and ſurrounded " with warlike ſubjects, was it ſtrange I ſhould " uſe all my efforts to preſerve myſelf free. But " the fates alas! decreed your power, your em- " pire ſhould be univerſal, and of courſe we " muſt yield with the ſubjected world. My re- " ſiſtance, however, has increaſed your glory, " which had I tamely ſubmitted, would not have " been ſo illuſtrious; death would have buried " the memory of it, and would have aſſigned me " a ſilent oblivion. Extend your triumph ſtill " further: ſuffer me to live a monument of your " clemency, which, afforded to unfortunate " bravery, will remain for ever an example to " after ages."

This ſpeech had its due effect, and the priſoners were unſhackled from their bonds.

The plants moſt worthy of notice in the iſland of Angleſea, are as follow:

Great ſea ſtock gillyflower, with a ſinuated leaf; *Leucoium maritimum ſinuato folio*, C. B. *Leucoium marinum maximum*, J. B. which is found on the ſandy ſhores about *Abermenai* ferry.

Small vernal ſtar hyacinth; *Hyacinthus ſtellaris bifolius Germanicus*, C. B. *Hyacinthus ſtellatus biſolius et trifolius vernus dumetorum flore cæruleo et albo*, J. B. this is found among the buſhes in *Bardſey* iſland.

Alexanders, or *Aliſanders*, *Hippoſelinum Theophraſti ſive Smyrnium Dioſcoridis*, C. B. *Macarone, quibuſdam Smyrnium ſemine magno nigro*, J. B. *Smyrnium foliis caulinis orbiculatis integerrimis, amplexicaulibus*, Hort. Cliff. 105. grows on the rocks about *Prieſtholm* iſland. This plant approaches to the nature of ſmallage, but in taſte and ſmell is ſtronger. The ſeeds are bitteriſh and aromatic, and are eſteemed carminatives, ſtomachics, and aperients;

aperients; the roots are bitterer than the ſeeds, and are recommended as reſolvents, diuretics, and emenagogues; they yield on inciſion a whitiſh juice, which, when inſpiſſated, is ſaid to approach in taſte to myrrh, whence the plant received the name of *Smyrnium*. It uſed formerly to be cultivated in gardens, and blanched like celery for kitchen uſes; but the laſt-mentioned plant has long ſince taken its place, having a more grateful flavour.

Sea Cudweed, or *Cotton weed*; *Gnaphalium maritimum*, C. B. *Gnaphalium maritimum multis*, J. B. grows on the ſand near Abermenai ferry. The inhabitants call it *Calamus aromaticus*, from its ſweet ſcent.

Dwarf Sea-fern; *Filix petræa ex inſulis ſtæchadibus*, C. B. *Chamæfilix marina anglica*, J. B. grows on the rocks in Prieſtholm iſland, and on Lhan dwyn, in Angleſea.

Small round leaved Scurvy-graſs; *Cochlearia minor rotundifolia*, Ray. *Cochlearia folio ſubrotundo*, C. B. *Cochlearia foliis radicalibus ſubrotundis, caulinis oblongis ſubſinuatis*, Flor. Lapp. 256. This plant is to be met with in the neighbourhood of Beaumaris.

BEDFORD-

BEDFORDSHIRE.

THIS county derives its name from the principal town, Bedford, ſo called from the Saxon word, Bedanford, an Inn, or reſting place at the Ford of a River: It is one of the ſeven counties, which, lying all together, have not one city within their confines, the others being Huntingdon, Berks, Bucks, Hertford, Eſſex, and Suffolk. The form of it is oval, 36 miles long, 18 broad, and about 100 in circumference: on the N. and N. W. it is bounded by Northamptonſhire; on the South by Hertfordſhire, and by Buckinghamſhire on the Weſt; and contains nine hundreds, 11 Markets towns, 124 Pariſhes, 12170 Houſes, and 67350 Inhabitants, according to a computation made ſome years ſince, when perſonal taxes, and hearth money were levied *: it is in the dioceſe of Lincoln and province of Canterbury, and ſends four members to parliament, two knights for the ſhire, and two burgeſſes for the town of Bedford. The Market towns are Bedford, Potton, Biggleſwade, Shefford, Ampt-hill, Harold, Woburn, Tuddington, Dunſtable, Leighton-Buzzard, and Luton.

The Rivers in Bedfordſhire are the Ouſe, Ivel and Ouzel; the firſt of which is navigable from

* This remark is made once for all, here; becauſe ſome may doubt the truth of this account, and enquire how it came to be aſcertained.

Lynn to Bedford, and in croſſing the county, makes a courſe of near 50 miles, entering it between Bradfield and Turvey, and leaving it at St. Neots, on the borders of Huntingdonſhire. The Ivel is navigable to Biggleſwade, and might be made ſo quite to Hitchin, and thence continued into a branch of the river Lea, which riſes alſo in this county, and empties itſelf into the Thames, a little below Blackwall. The Ouzel divides the country from Buckinghamſhire, making a junction with the Ouze at Newport Pagnel.

The air is ſerene and healthy, the ſoil remarkably rich, particularly on the North of the Ouze, being moſtly a deep loam; but in the middle it is ſandy, as about Leighton, and from thence 24 miles, quite acroſs the county, by Woburn to Potton. It is fruitful in corn, affords excellent paſturage; and the vale of Bedford produces great quantities of the fineſt wheat, which is frequently ſold as the beſt Hertfordſhire wheat; abundance of fine malt is made and ſent to the London markets; it affords plenty of cattle, butter and cheeſe, and the principal manufactures are bone-lace and ſtraw ware, particularly hats.

The middle of this county was formerly overrun with woods, and had a great number of parks, and plenty of deer; the principal of thoſe that remain, and where the nobility reſide, are at Woburn, the duke of Bedford's; Luton, the earl of Bute's; Wreſt, the earl of Hardwick's; Houghton, the marquis of Taviſtock's; and Ampthill, the earl of Upper Oſſory's.

BEDFORD, the county town, ſeated on the river Ouſe, is 50 miles N. by W. of London, and was of ſome repute in the time of the Saxons: Offa, King of the Mercians was buried there by his own appointment; but his Tomb was waſhed away

away by a ſudden flood. Edward the Elder repaired and enlarged it, by building that part called Burh, in the Saxon chronicles, after it had been almoſt ruined in the Daniſh wars. Pagan de Beauchamp, third baron of Bedford, erected a ſtrong caſtle after the Norman conqueſt, which ſuffered greatly in the ſucceeding civil wars: king Stephen took it in the year 1138, after he had loſt many of his men before it, Milo de Beauchamp maintaining it againſt him for the king of the Scots, becauſe Stephen would have taken the government from him: William de Beauchamp, then lord of the caſtle, delivered it into the hands of the barons who took up arms againſt king John; but in the ſpace of two years they were forced to ſurrender it to Fulco de Brent, after a cloſe ſiege, to whom for that ſervice, it was given by that monarch: afterwards, Fulco, rebelling againſt his prince, the better to fortify his caſtle, pulled down all the religous houſes near the town. Henry III. however, after only ſix days ſiege, took it, and hanged William de Brent, Fulco's brother, with 24 other knights, on the ſpot; and then diſmantled the caſtle, and filled up the ditches, preſerving only the inner part, for the uſe of William de Beauchamp, who claimed it as a reſidence. In Leland's time, it was level with the ground; and the ſcite whereon it ſtood, is now a fine bowling-green, ſhewn to travellers as a great curioſity.

Bedford is, at preſent, a clean, well built, populous town, divided by the Ouſe, into two parts; ſo that it has, in ſome reſpects, the appearance of two towns, joined by an handſome ſtone bridge: on this bridge were formerly two gates, which were taken down in the year 1765, in order to make the paſſage over it more commodious

modious. The town is well inhabited, and contains five parish churches; St. Paul's, the principal, a noble structure; St. Peter's, and St. Cuthbert's, on the north side of the river; and St. Mary's, and St. John's, on the south; also an Independent meeting-house, a Methodist tabernacle, and an elegant chapel for the Unitas Fratrum, or Moravians, with apartments for the brothers and sisters. The other publick buildings are, a free-school, founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, by Sir William Harpar, a native of Bedford, sometime lord-mayor of London; two hospitals, one of them by Thomas Anisty, one of their representatives in parliament; a charity-school, an alms-house, and a very elegant sessions-house. Bedford gives the title of duke to the noble family of Russel, and is governed by a mayor, twelve aldermen, a recorder, two bailiffs, two chamberlains, a town-clerk, and two serjeants. It sends two members to parliament, who are elected by the inhabitants at large, except such as receive alms; and the mayor and two bailiffs are the returning officers. The liberties of the corporation extend about nine miles in circuit round the town; and a member thereof, many years since, bequeathed a field or two in the spot now called Theobald's-row, Red-lion-street, Eagle-street, and its environs, near Red-lion-square, London; the leases whereof expiring some years since, the estate is become so considerable, that the Corporation obtained an act of parliament to impower them to give portions to servant-maids, for the encouragement of population, fees with poor children to put them out to apprenticeships, and other charitable donations.

The markets are kept every week; on Tuesday on the south side of the river; and on Saturday

turday, on the north ſide; the former remarkable for cattle, and the latter for corn. Six fairs are held, on the firſt Tueſday in lent, April 21, July 5, Auguſt 21, Oct. 11, and Dec. 19, for all ſorts of cattle. There is a very conſiderable trade for coals, which is carried on for above 20 miles diſtance; and they ſell in Bedford at all times cheaper than in London, owing to the navigation of the Ouſe, and their not paying the London duties.

Camden obſerves, that a little below Bedford, about the year 572, Cuthwulph, the Saxon, gave the Britons ſo complete an overthrow, that they could never again make head againſt him.

Not far from the town, a little to the weſt of Caſtlemill, are the traces of Riſingho caſtle, which, in the opinion of Leland, antiently belonged to D'Eſpee, founder of Warden-abbey The religious houſe, called Newenham, was to the eaſt of, and about a mile diſtant from, Bedford, where Roheiſia, wife of Pagan baron of Bedford, founded a priory for regular canons of the order of St. Auſtin, and removed thither the ſecular canons or prebendaries from St. Paul's Bedford, which was a priory founded before the Norman conqueſt. Others inform us they were obliged to remove from thence, becauſe one of the fraternity had killed a butcher in a fray. According to Burton, the religious houſe at Newenham, was valued, at the diſſolution, at about 243l. a year; but Dugdale ſays, at 293l.

We ſhall proceed now to give an account of the towns and other remarkable places in this county, ſituated on the road from London to Bedford, which enters it five miles from St. Albans, at the 27 miles ſtone; and about a mile farther on the right hand, is Luton-park, formerly the ſeat and eſtate of the Napiers, but now

of the Right Hon. the earl of Bute, which he lately purchaſed of J. Herne, Eſq. His lordſhip has paled in above ſix miles round for his park, and made a conſiderable head of water, thro' which runs the river Lee. Fancy only can paint the variety of pleaſing and alluring proſpects from the hills in this circuit, which have a charming effect upon the ſight.

LUTON is a good town, pleaſantly ſituated in a valley, 31 miles diſtant from London, N. by W. It has a large, handſome market-houſe; on Mondays, a conſiderable market for corn and poultry, and two fairs, on April 25, and Oct. 18, for all ſorts of cattle. At Farle, near this town, were a maſter and brethren, ſubordinate to the great hoſpital of Santingfield, in Picardy, to whom the place was given by Henry II. but Henry VI. afterwards granted it to the fellows of king's-college, Cambridge.

BARTON, or BARTON-IN-THE-CLAY, is about ſix miles, N. from Luton, and remarkable for a petrifying ſpring.

HIGHAM-GOBION is a mile to the eaſtward of Barton, of which pariſh the great orientaliſt, Dr. Edmund Caſtel, was rector, and there buried. He was capitally concerned in the Polyglot Bible, and was ſole author of the Lexicon Heptaglotton. Here he reſided, little known, or much unnoticed by his countrymen, tho' his fame was ſpread, by his writings, all over Europe. Intenſe ſtudy deprived him firſt of his ſight, and finally of his life.

SILSOE, is nine miles from Luton, and forty from London; the market has been diſuſed for ſome time: but there are two fairs, on May 12, and September 21, for all ſorts of cattle. Wreſt park, the ſeat of the earl of Hardwicke, is contiguous to the town; which formerly belonged

to

to the noble family of Grey; the male line of which ended in his late grace the duke of Kent: on his deceaſe it came to the preſent noble poſſeſſor, who married his grand-daughter, the preſent marchioneſs Grey.

At Pullox-hill, a mile on the weſt-ſide of the road, and about the ſame diſtance from Silſoe, is a gold mine, diſcovered about 70 years ſince, which was ſeized for the king, and leaſed out to a refiner. Some gold was found, but not enough to pay the charge of working the mine.

Clophill, is ten miles from Luton, at which place the road from Woburn to Shefford croſſes the Bedford road, and about three miles further ſtill, a little eaſtward of the road is Hawnes, the ſeat of Earl Granville. It is about ſix miles from Bedford.

The next place of any note is Wilſhamſtead, four miles from Bedford, from whence we next proceed to

Elvestow, which is a mile and half from that town, and has two fairs, on May 14, and Nov. 25, for all ſorts of cattle. Here were two beautiful religious houſes, one of which was called Hellenſtow. In the reign of William the Conqueror, Judith, wife of Waltheof earl of Huntingdon, founded a priory here for nuns, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary, and St. Helen, the mother of Conſtantine the Great. It was valued, at the diſſolution of monaſteries, according to ſome, at about 294l. and to others, at about 345l.

We ſhall now take notice of the towns, &c. on the new turnpike road, of late years made from London, through Hitchin, in Hertfordſhire, to Bedford. The firſt place of any note is Shefford, 41 miles from London, and nine miles S. E. from Bedford, ſeated upon two rivu-

lets, which uniting their ſtreams a little to the eaſtward of the town, fall into the Ivel. Over each of theſe is a bridge; and the market, on Fridays, is pretty large, for corn and fowls. The four fairs are held on Jan. 23, Eaſter-Monday, May 19, and Oct. 10, all for cattle. The pariſh of Campton has a chapel of eaſe in this town.

Chickſand Priory, about a mile weſt from Shefford, was founded by Roiſe, wife of Paganus de Beauchamp, baron of Bedford, in the reign of king Henry I. for nuns of the order of St. Gilbert of Sempringham, and dedicated to the bleſſed Virgin. Paganus and his wife gave divers lands, and beſtowed many privileges, on this houſe, which were confirmed by king Edward II. who, in the 10th year of his reign, granted licence to John Blundel, to ſettle the manor of Chickſand, with all its appurtenances, thereon. The manor is now poſſeſſed by the family of the Oſborns, baronets; and the convent, being in good condition, is converted into their reſidence. Francis Oſborn, an ingenious Engliſh writer, in the 17th century, was born in this pariſh, and inſtructed in a private manner, never having the advantage of a ſchool or univerſity education. When arrived at a ſufficient age, he repaired to court, and became maſter of the horſe to William earl of Pembroke. Upon the breaking out of the civil wars he adhered to the parliament, and enjoyed ſome conſiderable poſts, not only under their government, but under that of Oliver Cromwell. In the latter part of his life he retired to Oxford, to have an eye on his ſon's education, who was a fellow of All-ſouls college, and to ſuperintend the publication of ſome of his own books, particularly of his *Advice to a ſon*; for the burning of which a propoſal was made, on account of its

dangerous

North East View of Warden Monastery in the County of Bedford.

Vol. 1 Page 29.

dangerous and irreligious tendency. He died, aged about 70, in the year 1659.

Southill, the ſeat of lord Viſcount Torrington, is about two miles eaſt from Deadman's-croſs turnpike; and joining thereto is Warden, a village, about three miles weſt from Biggleſwade, where there was formerly a monaſtery built for Ciſtertian monks, by Walter D'Eſpee, in the year 1136, and dedicated to the honour of the Bleſſed Virgin: It was endowed with ſeveral lands and immunities from the abbey of Rieval. King Stephen, in 1139, enlarged the revenues; all which, together with after benefactions, were confirmed by king Richard I. in the tenth year of his reign. According to Dugdale, it was valued, at the diſſolution, at 389l. 16s. 6d. per ann. But Speed makes it 442l. 11s. 11d. A view of the remains of this monaſtery is given in the plate.

Lady Bovey, ſiſter of a lord Maynard, gave 300l. to the vicarage of Warden, which was laid out in the purchaſe of 10l. per. annum, to be paid to the vicar and his ſucceſſors for ever.

Northill is near the ſame diſtance from Biggleſwade, and to the eaſt of this road. The pariſh church, dedicated to St. Mary, in the 6th of Henry IV. was made collegiate, and endowed for the ſupport of a maſter, and ſeveral fellows, as an offering for the peace of the ſouls of Sir John Trally and Reginald his ſon, by Sir Gerard Braybrook, one of his executors. It was valued at the diſſolution, at 61l. 5s. 5d.

We ſhall now accompany the traveller to every remarkable place in the road from Bedford to Higham-Ferrers, in Northamptonſhire.

Clapham, two miles from Bedford, is a ſeat of the Right Hon. the earl of Aſhburnham. And the ſame diſtance from Clapham, weſt, is Oakley,

where there is a neat ſeat of his grace the duke of Bedford.

MILTON-ENNYS, is one mile further, and Bletſoe two miles from Milton-Ennys, which gives the title of baron, to a branch of the noble family of St. John, who have a ſeat and park there; and at Melchbourn, about ſix miles north from Bletſoe, and three miles eaſt of the road, was a preceptory of the knights hoſpitallers of St. John of Jeruſalem, endowed by a counteſs of Pembroke, in the reign of Henry I. Margaret Beaufort, ſole daughter and heir of John Beaufort, duke of Somerſet, and great grand-daughter of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaſter, was born at the former of theſe two laſt-mentioned villages, in 1441. At the age of fifteen, ſhe married Edmund, earl of Richmond, by whom ſhe had a ſon, Henry, who afterwards aſcended the throne of England, under the name of Henry VII. Her ſecond huſband was Sir Henry Stafford, ſon of the duke of Buckingham: and her third, Thomas Lord Stanley; by neither of whom ſhe had any children. Diſtinguiſhed alike for her piety and charity, ſhe exhibited, during her whole life, the moſt ſhining examples of thoſe virtues. Learned herſelf, and a patroneſs of the learned, ſhe left behind her the nobleſt foundations for ſupport and encouragement of every ſpecies of literature. Beſides ſome inferior inſtitutions for this purpoſe, ſhe founded the two colleges of Chriſt and St. John's in Cambridge; the former in 1505, for one maſter, twelve fellows, and forty-ſeven ſcholars; the latter in 1508, for a maſter, and fifty fellows and ſcholars. And having thus lived ſixty-eight years, an ornament to her ſex, and a bleſſing to the world, ſhe died at Weſtminſter, in 1509, in the firſt year of her grandſon Henry the VIIIth's

reign.

reign, and was buried in the chapel, erected by her ſon king Henry VII. in Weſtminſter-abbey. The Knotting-fox, a houſe of good entertainment, ten miles from Bedford, is the laſt houſe in the county on this road.

In the road from Bedford to Wellingborough, at four miles from the former you croſs the Ouſe over Stafford bridge, which is built of ſtone, and has twenty-nine or thirty arches. After paſſing Pavingham, you croſs the Ouſe again over a ſtone bridge of many arches, and enter Harold, which is nine miles N. W. from Bedford.

HAROLD is chiefly remarkable for giving the title of earl to the late duke of Kent, and has three fairs, held on Tueſday before May 12, Tueſday before July 5, and Tueſday before Oct. 10, all for cattle. Here was a priory of canons and nuns, according to the inſtitution of St. Nicholas Arrouaſia, which afterwards was converted into a nunnery, having a prioreſs and three or four nuns of the order of St. Auguſtin, dedicated to St. Peter. It was founded in the year 1150, by Sampſon Le Forte. Malcolm king of Scotland, as earl of Huntingdon, confirmed certain lands to the prior, canons, and ſiſters of this priory; and his example was followed by William king of Scotland. Henry IV. king of England, gave to the prior and nuns one meſſuage of land, in Chalkenſtone, of the yearly value of 2s. together with the advowſon of that church. Part of the priory is ſtill remaining; and it was valued, at the diſſolution, at 47l. 3s. 2d. per ann. according to Dugdale.

ODELL is a village, on the river Ouſe, about one mile to the N. W. of Harold, which formerly gave title to a baron, and had a caſtle, which, even in Leland's time, was reduced to ruins. It has one fair, on Thurſday in Whit-

ſun-week, for all ſorts of cattle. Sir Thomas Aſton has a ſeat here, the proſpect from which is ſo extenſive and beautiful, that it has been called Little Windſor.

Two miles on the road from Bedford to Northampton, which falls next under our cognizance, on the left hand of the road, is the village of Biddenham; and a mile further, on the right, Bromham, in which is Bromham-hall, the ſeat of Lord Trevor; theſe pariſhes are both his lordſhip's eſtate. Turvey is the laſt pariſh, on the weſt of Bedford, in the county, on the road to Northampton.

There is a turnpike road, leading from Bedford to Newport-Pagnel, thro' Stagſden, and which is the high road from the univerſities of Cambridge and Oxford.

The moſt frequented north-road to York and Edinburgh, runs thro' this county, entering it at Baldock, in Hertfordſhire, eight miles from which is

BIGGLESWADE, pleaſantly ſeated on the river Ivel, which is navigable for coal-lighters, and over which is a handſome ſtone bridge. This town gives name to the hundred it ſtands in, and has plenty of commodious inns, for the accommodation of travellers. There is a good market on Thurſdays; and ſix fairs, on Feb. 13, Saturday in Eaſter week, Whit-Monday, July 22, St. Simeon and St. Jude, and Oct. 18, for all ſorts of cattle. Camden takes notice, that in his time, there was at Biggleſwade a very great horſe fair. There was formerly a college dedicated to the Holy Trinity, in this town, which is 54 miles from London, and the common thoroughfare from thence to York.

POTTON lies four miles from Biggleſwade, to the N. E. a little to the ſouth of which, a branch

of

of this road falls into that from Bedford to Cambridge, and it is the ſecond town, for magnitude, in the county; but the ſoil about it is ſandy and gravelly, though 'tis a very pleaſant country. The carcaſe butchers of this town carry on a great trade, and ſend ſurprizing quantities of veal to the London markets. The market is on Saturdays, for corn, cattle, and fowls; and the four annual fairs on the third Tueſday in January, for horſes; Tueſday before Eaſter, the firſt Tueſday in July, and the Tueſday before Oct. 29, for all ſorts of cattle.

Adjoining to this town is the pariſh of Sutton, where Sir Roger Burgoyne, bart. has a fine ſeat. Sutton and Potton are two lordſhips, granted to a remote anceſtor of the preſent baronet, by the famous John of Gaunt, whoſe laconic deed of conveyance, our readers perhaps may prefer to thoſe of the modern lawyers:

I, John of Gaunt,
Do give and do grant
To Roger Burgoyne,
And the heirs of his loyn,
Sutton and Potton,
Until the world's rotten.

Edward Stillingfleet, the learned biſhop of Worceſter, was rector of Sutton, preſented thereto by Sir Roger, the then baronet; and there he wrote his famous book *Origines Sacræ*, when he was very young, and publiſhed it, with a dedication to his illuſtrious patron, in 1662, in which is a ſketch of his excellent character.

SALNDY, or SANDY, is on the eaſt of the Ivel, and three miles north of Biggleſwade, near which the road to St. Neots, croſſes over Girtford bridge. Cloſe to this village, on a hill, is a Roman camp, called Cæſar's camp, which was undoubtedly the Salenæ of the Romans menti-

oned by Ptolemy; for great quantities of Roman and Britiſh antiquities have been found upon the ſpot, with a very conſiderable number of coins, and amongſt them a braſs Otho, with vaſes, lamps, and urns, about the year 1670, ſome of which were preſented to the univerſity of Oxford; and the field where they were found is called Cheſterton. The ſoil of this place is ſand, reſembling that on the ſea-ſhore; and it is remarkable for the number of gardens; the owners and tenants of which, carry the produce to all the neighbouring market towns of this and the adjacent counties. It is imagined a Roman road paſſed by Sandy, weſtward, from Grantcheſter, by Cambridge. Coins continue to be ſtill found, but as it is but ſeldom, it has increaſed their value. A little to the North-eaſt is a Daniſh encampment; and in the neighbourhood Haſelhall, the ſeat of Mr. Pym.

TEMPSFORD is ſeated near the conflux of the rivers Ivel and Ouſe, and was formerly noted for its caſtle, built by the Danes, the ruins of which are ſtill viſible; as alſo for a camp, wherein thoſe people took up their winter quarters, when they were beſieging a ſtrong fort, built indeed by the Romans, but then defended by the Saxons.

EATON-SOCUN is a mile and an half weſt of St. Neots, is a great thoroughfare on this road, and has ſeveral good inns for the entertainment of travellers. Some years ſince, the ruins of an antient caſtle were to be ſeen; and here alſo was a college dedicated to the body of Chriſt, tho' biſhop Tanner thinks it was only a guild: it was worth about 8l. per annum.

BUSHMEAD lies about two miles N. W. from Eaton, where there was formerly a ſmall priory, founded by Hugh, ſon of Oliver Beauchamp, and Roger, his brother, for black canons, in the reign

reign of William I. It was dedicated to St. Mary; and the value, at the ſuppreſſion, according to Burton, was about 82l. per ann. but Dugdale ſays not quite 72l. It is now the ſeat of William Gery, Eſq.

Watling-ſtreet road enters Bedfordſhire at Market-ſtreet, in Hertfordſhire, 29 miles from London; near which is Market-cell, the ſeat of Mr. Copin, which was a nunnery of Benedictines, built and endowed by Geoffry abbot of St. Alban's, in the twelfth century; the ſcite, and ſome adjacent lands being given by the dean and chapter of St. Paul's. It ſtood, as moſt religious houſes did, very pleaſantly, at the edge of a wood.

The next place of note is DUNSTABLE, a market town, 33 miles from London, ſuppoſed to be the Magiovinium of Antoninus, according to Camden; tho' Horſeley places Durocobrivae at Dunſtable: however, it is more probable the Roman camp at Caſtle-hill, which is to be ſeen at this time, on the extremity of Chalk-hill, near Tatternhoe, about two miles from Dunſtable, was the ſcite of the former ſtation. In this town are a great number of good inns, and it conſiſts of two ſtreets, interſecting each other at right angles; but they do not, as commonly aſſerted, anſwer to the four cardinal points; being built according to the direction of the Icknield and Watling-ſtreets, which meet here. In the center of theſe ſtreets a beautiful croſs was erected by king Edward I. to the memory of his queen Eleanor, who died on the road to Scotland; but it was deſtroyed in the civil wars, in the reign of Charles I. The ſoil of the town and adjacent country, for a conſiderable diſtance, is all chalk; and this track of chalk croſſes the kingdom, from the eaſtern ſea, in much the ſame direction as

the

the Icknield-ſtreet. The water uſed by the inhabitants is contained in a pond in the ſtreet, or in deep wells which they have ſunk, from which it is drawn up by machines. The church is the remains of a Priory of canons regular, and according to Dr. Stukeley, now conſiſts of many parts of it tacked together. It is certain it was once of very large extent, as appears from the foundation of the walls, ſtill remaining. A perfect idea of the noble remains of this priory will be formed by the view in the annexed plate. The living is in the gift of the lord chancellor. Over-againſt the church is Kingſbury, formerly a royal palace, built by Henry I. who was the founder of the town; but it is now reduced to a farm-houſe.

After king Henry had built the town, he erected a church, and the priory before-mentioned, within its liberties, to the honour of St. Peter, and gave the church and whole borough, with its markets, fairs, &c. to the ſaid canons; retaining for himſelf only the capital manſion of Kingſbury. All which was confirmed to them by Henry II. Richard I. and king John. The canons held a court of pleas of their own, and ſome of their tenants held *in capite* of the abbot, others by ſervices to be performed to the canons; but they were all freemen. The annual income of the old priory, at the diſſolution, according to Dugdale, was 334l. 13s. 3d. but Burton makes it 402l. 14s. 7d. There was a houſe of friars predicant, eſtabliſhed about the year 1259, in this town, and valued, at the diſſolution, at 4l. 18s. 4d. per annum. The ſentence of divorce of queen Catherine from Henry VIII. was pronounced at Dunſtable, by archbiſhop Cranmer.

There is a good market at Dunſtable on Wedneſdays, for corn and cattle; and four fairs, held

on

Vol. 1 Page 36.

North West View of Dunstable Priory in the County of Bedford.

on Aſh-Wedneſday, May 22, Auguſt 12, and Nov. 12, all for cattle. Alſo a manufactory of ſtraw-hats, carried on by women, who make many other things with the ſame materials; and a great quantity of lace. It is likewiſe famous for larks, there being amazing numbers in their neighbouring low grounds. In theſe grounds Roman coins have been frequently found, called by the country people *maddening money*. Not far from the town, on the very ſummit of the chalk-hills, is a large round area, of nine acres, ſurrounded with a rampart, which has the appellation of *Maiden Bower*, and is ſuppoſed, by Dr. Stukeley, to be a work of the antient Britons, tho' others imagine it to have been a Daniſh camp. It ſtands upon a plain, not far from the edge of a leſſer eminence, about a mile from Dunſtable. The rampart is high; but there are very few ſigns of a ditch at preſent. Between this place and the town is a long barrow, called Mill-hill, doubtleſs from a mill that was erected upon it. It ſtands eaſt and weſt, and is ſuppoſed to be a Celtic remain. A high prominence, called the Five Knolls, which overlooks all, are ſo called from that number of barrows, or Celtic tumuli, upon the very top of the hill, which are round, pretty large, and ditched about: at the bottom of the hill runs the Icknield-ſtreet.

On the right hand of the road, about five miles from Dunſtable, is BATTLESDEN, from whence the Right Hon. lord Bathurſt takes his title of baron. It was formerly the patrimony of that noble family; but is now one of the ſeats of Sir Gregory Page, bart. Oppoſite thereto is

HOCKLIFFE, commonly called Hockley in the Hole, which is four miles beyond Dunſtable, upon this road, and lies very low, from which it had its name; and the ſtreet was formerly a dir-

ty,

ty, ſloppy place. This village chiefly conſiſts of Inns and public-houſes, and is ſtill bad for travelling, after a plentiful rain; for then the road near it is always full of water. In this place was an hoſpital, in the reign of king John, for a maſter and ſeven brethren, dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt. Three miles from hence the road leaves the county; the next place of note being Fenny Stratford in Buckinghamſhire.

LEIGHTON-BEAUDESERT, vulgarly Leighton-Buzzard, is about three miles to the South of Hockliffe, on the edge of Buckinghamſhire, being parted therefrom by the Ouzel, a rivulet, running into the Ouſe, over which is a bridge. There is here a good market on Tueſdays, for cattle of all ſorts, and four fairs, on January 25, Whit-Tueſday, July 26 and October 24, for the ſame commodity. A houſe of Ciſtertian monks was formerly founded in this place, being a cell to Woburn-Abbey, and in the pariſh, at Grovebury, a convent of foreign monks; Henry II. having given the manor to the nuns of Fontevrault, in Normandy: As the other foreign priories, it was ſeized by the crown, and granted to ſeveral private perſons, but at laſt given to the dean and canons of Windſor, who ſtill hold the poſſeſſion. Camden takes notice, that within half a mile of Leighton was a Roman camp, a place of eminence even in the remote Saxon times.

The road to Northampton from London, turns off at Hockliffe, upon which we meet, firſt with

WOBURN, which is a ſmall market town, chiefly remarkable for its vicinity to Woburn-Abbey, the ſeat of his grace the duke of Bedford, and is 42 miles N. W. from London; the market which

is

is ſmall, is on Fridays, chiefly for butter and cheeſe; and the three fairs are held on March 23, July 3, and October 6, all for cattle. They have alſo a manufactory of jockey-caps. The town ſuffered greatly by fire, in June 1724, when above one hundred houſes were conſumed; but has been ſince rebuilt, with an handſome market-houſe, at the expence of the preſent duke of Bedford, one of whoſe predeceſſors founded a charity-ſchool for 30 boys and 15 girls, where they are not only taught but cloathed, and his preſent grace, gives 40 ſtone of beef and a large quantity of bread, every week, to the poor.

Woburn-Abbey, ſtands in a park ſeven miles in circumference, and almoſt ſurrounded by a brick wall 10 feet high. On the ſcite of the preſent palace, formerly ſtood an abbey, founded by Hugh Bolebeck, in the year 1145, for Ciſtertian monks, but a great part of it has been lately new built. It is a regular quadrangle, having a large area or court within; the apartments are elegant, have been finely ornamented, and contain a good collection of pictures, with ſome old portraits of the Ruſſel family: before the main front of the houſe is a baſon of water, of conſiderable extent. In the year 1766, February 13, a dreadful ſhower of frozen rain, broke off above one thouſand loads of timber from the trees in his grace's park, and ſpread the like devaſtation through many other places.

In the pariſh of Aſpley-Guiſe, about a mile and half from Woburn, it is ſaid the earth has the ſtrange property of turning wood into ſtone; but this is a miſtake, for it only cruſts it over with a kind of ſpar, and even to accompliſh that the wood muſt lie a great while in the ground. In this pariſh are ſeveral pits of fullers-earth, called

called alſo, Woburn-earth, ſo eſſential a material for our woollen manufacturers.

We now, naturally enough, return to Dunſtable, and purſue the road from thence to Bedford, on which, the firſt remarkable place the traveller meets with, is

TUDDINGTON, five miles from Dunſtable, which has a ſmall market on Saturdays, and five fairs on April 25, firſt Monday in June, Sept. 4, Nov. 2, and Dec. 16, all for cattle. The town is ſeated on one of the higheſt hills in this county, and once was adorned with a fine ſeat, built in the reign of queen Elizabeth, by Sir Henry Cheney, afterwards created Lord Cheney of Tuddington. At Wood-end, near this town, ſtood the ſeat of Sir Samuel Luke, ſometime high ſheriff of Bedfordſhire, and a commander in the Parliament forces, in the civil wars; who was undoubtedly the Hudibras of the inimitable Butler.

AMPTHILL, the next town of any note on this road, is 12 miles N. of Dunſtable, 8 miles due South of Bedford, and 43 from London: it is delightfully ſituated between two hills, tho' in a barren ſoil. There is a market on Thurſdays, and two fairs, on May 4, and Dec. 11, for cattle. Near the town is an hoſpital founded by Mr. Stone, ſometime principal of New-Inn Hall, in Oxford, for 10 poor men, and a charity-ſchool for poor children. Camden ſays there was, in his time, a ſtately royal ſeat ſurrounded with parks, built in the reign of Henry VI. by John Cornewall, baron of Fanhope, who being attainted, in the reign of Edward IV. it was granted to Edmund Grey, lord of Ruthyn, afterwards Earl of Kent, from whoſe grandſon Richard it came to Henry VIII. who annexed it to the crown, and ſtiled it *The honour of Ampthill.*

hill. His queen, Catherine dwelt here, during the progreſs of the divorce; and from hence was cited to appear before the commiſſioners at Dunſtable.

HAUGHTON-CONQUEST PARK, adjoining to Ampthill, was a ſeat of the Counteſs of Pembroke. It became afterwards the ſeat of the Earls of Ayleſbury, and has lately been purchaſed by the Duke of Bedford, who has given it to his ſon and heir apparent the moſt noble Marquis of Taviſtock, wherein he reſides. It was repaired and ornamented by Inigo Jones; but in the year 1765, underwent another reform under the inſpection of the celebrated Mr. Chambers. There is in this houſe, a capital collection of pictures, made by the marquis, when on his travels in Italy. It ſtands on the ſide of an hill, and has a very extenſive proſpect over the rich vale of Bedford. Next the entrance of the Park, from Ampthill is a lodge, and not far from it a pear-tree, in which they ſay the illuſtrious Sidney, wrote his Arcadia, and Pomfret, one of our minor poets, his verſes. The ſtairs by which it uſed to be aſcended, of late years, have been removed.

Bedfordſhire is one of the three counties, whoſe antient inhabitants were called Cattieuchlani, by the Romans; ſome ſuppoſe they were originally called Caſſii, from Geſſi, a word ſignifying in the Britiſh language, *Men of Valour:* and Bellinus is imagined to have been a name of honour, aſſumed by all their princes. It was a Caſſibellinus, or Caſſivellaunus, who was choſen to command all the armies of Britain, when Cæſar invaded the Iſland. The Greeks, therefore, might very probably, give the name of Cattieuchlani, or Cattuellani to the people thoſe

princes.

princes governed. But we will say no more on so unimportant a subject.

Many years after the Romans abandoned Britain, the Saxons became masters of this county. And in the year 571, Cutha, brother of Ceawlwin, king of the West-Saxons, defeated the inhabitants in a great battle, fought near Bedford, and joined it to the kingdom of Mercia. The Saxons continued in quiet possession, near 200 years, when, as well as other parts of the kingdom, it was infested by the Danes, and particularly in 1016, was cruelly ravaged by Canute.

The uncommon herbs and plants, in this county, are *Maiden Pinks*, *Caryophillus minor refractus nostras*, Raii Syn. 335. Linnæus Sp. Plant 412, stiles it *Dianthus Caule subunifloro, corollis crenatis, squamis Calicinis brevissimis, foliis subulatis*; and the seedsmen call it, the *Mated Pink*; these grow on *Sandy* hills, near the Roman camp.

The *later Autumnal Gentian*, with leaves like centaury; *Gentianella frugex Autumnalis elatior. Centaurii minoris foliis*. Park. *Gentiana Annua foliis Centaurii minoris*. Tourn. And *Gentiana corollis quinquefidis infundibuli formibus, ramis unifloris alternis*. Lin. sp. plant. 229. This is found on Barton hills; not far from Luton.

The *Milk tare* of *Dioscorides*, *Glaux Dioscoridis*, Ger. p. 1242. This is to be met with on the same hills on both sides. *Crested cow-wheat*, *Melampyrum Cristatum*. J. B. *Melampyrum luteum Augustifolium*. C. B. *Melampyrum Spicis quadrangularibus contactis obtusis imbricatis*, Flor. Suec. 513. grows plentifully in this county, particularly near Blunham, in Wixamtree hundred

Black Currants, *or quinzy berries*, *Ribes nigrum vulgo dictum olente*, J. B. *Ribes interme racemis pilosis, floribus oblongis*, Lin sp. plant. 201. These are supposed to be good for a sore throat, whence

their

their Engliſh name. Mr. Ray obſerved they grew near Blunham above-mentioned.

White Lilly of the valley, Convallaria ſcapo nudo, Flor. Lap. 113. *Lilium Convallium album*, C. B. It grows naturally in great plenty in the woods near Woburn, whence the London markets are in general ſupplied with the plants.

The flowers of this plant have a fragrant delightful ſmell, and a penetrating bitteriſh taſte; both which they readily impart to watry and to ſpirituous menſtrua. Their odorous matter, like that of the white lilly, is very volatile; being totally diſſipated in exſiccation, and elevated in diſtillation, both by water and highly rectified ſpirit: there is no appearance of eſſential oil in either diſtillation; nor does the diſtilled ſpirit turn milky on the admixture of water, as thoſe ſpirits do which are impregnated with actual oil. The pungency and bitterneſs, on the other hand, reſide in a fixed matter, that remains entire, both in the watry and ſpirituous extracts, and which, in this concentrated ſtate, approaches, as Cartheuſer obſerves, to hepatic aloes. It is principally from the volatile parts of theſe flowers, that medicinal virtues have been expected, in nervous and catarrhous diſorders; but probably their fixed parts have alſo, no ſmall (perhaps the greateſt) ſhare in their efficacy. The flowers dried and powdered, and thus diveſted of their odoriferous principle, prove ſtrongly ſternutatory; watery, and ſpirituous extracts made from them, given in doſes of a ſcruple, or half a dram, act as gentle ſtimulating aperients and laxatives, and ſeem to partake of the purgative virtue, as well as of the bitterneſs of aloes. The roots have near the ſame properties. A compound diſtilled water is prepared of the flowers, called by the

Germans

Germans *aqua aurea*, on account of its virtues as a cephalic.

Woad, *Iſatis ſativa vel latifolia*, C. B. *Iſatis ſeu Glaſtum Sativum*. J. B. This plant has been long cultivated in England for the uſes of dying; the ancient Britons painted their bodies with it, calling it by the name of *Glaſſe*, which ſignifies blue, or ſky colour. Some have thought that the the plant uſed for dying, and the wild plant, were no ways different, except by the effects of cultivation; but this Mr. Miller, after many years experience, proved to be a miſtake. The ſame ingenious writer gives very ample directions, with reſpect to the improvements neceſſary to be made in the culture of this plant; and we have reaſon to hope, that, ſince the ſociety for the encouragement of arts, &c. has taken it in hand, it may ſoon be brought to perfection. It may not however be unpleaſing in this place, to ſay a few words reſpecting the preparation of it. It yields three or four crops of leaves in a ſeaſon; the two firſt of which are by far the beſt, therefore generally mixed. When the leaves are gathered, they are carried to the mill, to be ground and fitted for making into balls, which is next done; theſe balls are commonly dried on hurdles, and afterwards reduced into powder, which is ſpread on a floor and watered; this is called *couching*: here it heats and ſmoaks, till by conſtantly turning it becomes dry; this they term *ſilvering* it. When this proceſs is over, it is bagged and valued according to its goodneſs.

Beſides the worthy perſons already mentioned, born in this county, we ſhall take notice of two, who remarkably tho' differently, diſtinguiſhed themſelves, viz.

NICHOLAS ROWE, an eminent poet, in the beginning of the preſent century, who was de-

ſcended

ſcended from an honourable family, and born, in 1663, at Little Berkford. He received the rudiments of claſſical learning at Weſtminſter ſchool, under the famous Dr. Buſby. At ſixteen years of age he was taken from thence, and placed in the Middle Temple, where he applied himſelf to the ſtudy of the law with ſuch uncommon diligence, that he was ſoon called to the bar, and bade fair for making a figure in that gainful employment. His genius, however, which was lively and vigorous, took another turn. The Belles Lettres in general, and Poetry in particular, were his favourite amuſements. At the age of twenty-five, he produced his tragedy of the *Ambitious Step-mother*; and that having met with a very good reception, he immediately relinquiſhed the profeſſion of the law, and employed himſelf wholly in courting the favour of the muſes. Nor were his addreſſes paid to them in vain, for he wrote, in a few years, the *Fair Penitent*, *Ulyſſes*, the *Royal Convert*, *Jane Shore*, the *Lady Jane Gray*, and *Tamerlane*, which laſt is eſteemed his maſter-piece. His merit was not ſuffered to remain unrewarded. The duke of Queenſberry, when ſecretary of ſtate, made him his under ſecretary: king George I. upon his acceſſion to the throne, appointed him poet-laureat, and one of the land ſurveyors of the cuſtoms in the port of London: and the lord chancellor Parker conſtituted him his ſecretary for the preſentations. He died December the 6th, 1718, and was interred in Weſtminſter-abbey, where a ſumptuous monument was erected to his memory, at the expence of his widow. Mr. Rowe attempted comedy, but could not ſucceed in it. He wrote, however, beſides his tragedies, ſeveral ſmall poems: and he tranſlated Quillet's Callipædia, and Lucan's

can's Pharſalia. He likewiſe publiſhed an edition of Shakeſpear's plays.

JOHN BUNYAN, the celebrated author of the *Pilgrim's Progreſs*, who was the ſon of a tinker, at Elſtow near Bedford, was born in the year 1628. His education was ſuitable to his extraction, being taught only to read and write. In his youth he was greatly addicted to ſwearing; but having fallen into the company of people of a more religious turn, he gradually reformed, till at laſt he arrived at a high decree of that ſaintſhip which was ſo prevalent during thoſe times of enthuſiaſm. In 1645, he was a ſoldier in the parliament's army, and ten years after was admitted a member of a baptiſt congregation, at Bedford; but being convicted of holding unlawful aſſemblies and conventicles, he was thrown into priſon, where he remained for the ſpace of twelve years and a half. In 1671 he was choſen paſtor of the congregation at Bedford; and in the reign of James II. when that prince publiſhed a declaration for liberty of conſcience, Bunyan was enabled, by the contributions of his followers, to build in that town a public meeting-houſe, where he continued paſtor till the day of his death. He expired at London, in the ſixtieth year of his age, and was interred in the new burying place at Bunhill.

BERK-

BERKSHIRE.

MANY conjectures have been formed of the derivation of the preſent name of this county. Some have fondly conceited it came from a *Bare Oak*, on Windſor Foreſt, at which the inhabitants uſed to aſſemble, to conſult about public affairs: others, from the *Bibroci*, a people, who are ſaid, by Camden, to have lived in the diſtrict about Bray: but we muſt own we are entirely of opinion with old Aſſer * who lived nearer the time when England was divided into ſhires, than any other author that has mentioned it. This county is called, by him, *Berrocſcire*, from the wood *Berroc*, where he ſays, *Box grew in great plenty*; and what confirms this etymology is a circumſtance mentioned by the ingenious and learned Mr. Wiſe, that the wood *Berroc* was till lately to be ſeen in the pariſh of Sulham, in the hundred of Theale, near Reading, at a place called Boxgrove, where he alſo obſerves, *Box grew in great plenty*. The remains of Boxgrove were grubbed up not above two years before Mr. Wiſe wrote his letter to Dr. Mead, which was publiſhed in the year 1738. The Box-tree, again, grew plentifully, within the memory of ſome of the preſent inhabitants, in the adjacent pariſh of Tilehurſt, in Reading hundred. However, we muſt leave our readers to determine for themſelves which of theſe derivations is the moſt probable.

* *Aſſerius Menevenſis.*

BERKSHIRE is bounded on the East by Middlesex and Surry; on the West, by Wiltshire and Glocestershire; on the North, by the river Thames, which separates it from Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, and on the South by Hampshire. In form it has been, aptly enough, compared to a slipper; the length from East to West is about 42 miles; the breadth, from North to South, about 28½ miles, and in circumference it is 120. It is divided into 22 hundreds: the market towns, 12 in number, are Maidenhead, Reading, Farringdon, Abingdon, Wantage, East Ilsley, Wallingford, Hungerford, Newbury, Lambourne, Windsor, and Oakingham; and it contains 147 parishes, 1700 dwelling houses, 85000 inhabitants, lies in the diocese of Salisbury and province of Canterbury, and sends nine members to parliament, two knights of the shire; two burgesses each for New Windsor, Reading, and Wallingford, and one for Abingdon. A branch of the antient and noble family of Howard, are earls of Berkshire, and also earls of Suffolk.

If delightful, and varied prospects, intermingled with wood and water, a salubrious air, a number of pleasant seats, and opulent towns, make a country desirable, Berkshire may be look'd upon as one of the most delicious spots in the kingdom. If the soil is not every where naturally fertile, yet cultivation supplies all its defects, and produces a large increase. The most fruitful tracks lie on the banks of the rivers Thames and Kennet, and in the vale of White Horse. Wheat, and every other species of corn, are the staple commodities of the inhabitants, of which, by the conveyance of the river Thames, they send amazing quantities to the London markets weekly; and the barley and malt are excellent. The

clothing

clothing trade formerly flouriſhed in this county, and it was famous for rich manufacturers in that branch of buſineſs; Newbery and Reading being the principal clothing towns in the kingdom. Sail cloth and pins are now the chief manufactures.

The rivers are the Iſis, the Thames, the Kennet, for the greateſt part navigable, and famous for the fineſt Trout in the kingdom; the Lodden, the Ocke, and the Lambourn; which laſt has a very ſingular property; for it has always moſt water in ſummer, ſhrinks gradually as winter approaches, and about the middle of that ſeaſon is very ſhallow. This extraordinary phenomenon is accounted for, by ſuppoſing there is, in the hill, from which this ſmall river iſſues, a large cavity, with a duct, in form of a ſyphon, or crane, ſuch as is uſed to decant wine and other liquors, which ſuppoſition being allowed, a ſolution will be very eaſy.

READING is the largeſt and moſt conſiderable town in this county, ſituated on the Bath road, near the Thames and the Kennet. There was in antient times a fine church and a ſtrong caſtle, into which, the Danes in the year 871, retired, and fortified themſelves, throwing up, at the ſame time, a rampart between the rivers Thames and Kennet, after Ethelwolph, Earl of Berkſhire, had defeated them at Inglefield; or according to Aſſer, after they had been routed by king Alfred, at Aſhdown, eight days after the battle at Inglefield. In the year 872, the Danes abandoned it to the Saxons, who plundered the inhabitants, and deſtroyed the town. Henry II. demoliſhed the caſtle, becauſe it was a place of arms for king Stephen's adherents, and there there are now few traces of it left. Reading became a place of note in the reign of king Henry I. who pulled down

a ſmall nunnery, founded by Elfrida, in the year 980, by way of expiation or atonement (according to the groſs conceptions of thoſe dark times) for cauſing her ſon in law, Edward the martyr to be murdered by one of her domeſticks; king Henry built on the ſcite thereof, a ſtately Abbey in 1121, for 200 Benedictine monks, endowing it with great revenues, and was buried therein, with his queen and his daughter Maud, wife of Henry emperor of Germany, and mother of king Henry II. This abbey was dedicated to the honour of the holy trinity, the bleſſed virgin, St. James, and St. John the evangeliſt, and it is ſaid to have been equal to moſt in England, for its magnificent ſtructure and great riches. The Abbots being mitred, ſat in the houſe of peers; and the church of Pagburn, by the Thames, two miles S. E. of Baſelden, was their ſummer reſidence. The laſt Abbot, Faringdon, was drawn, hanged, and quartered, at Reading, and two of his monks, for high treaſon, in refuſing to ſurrender it on the demand of the viſitors, ſome time after the reformation. Camden acquaints us, that in his time, it was converted into a royal ſeat, adjoining to which was a ſtable for the king's horſes; very probably all demoliſhed in the civil war; it was valued at the diſſolution of monaſteries at 1938*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* In the annexed plate is a view of the ruins of the abbey, ſtill remaining, (always viſited by curious travellers) which are principally compoſed of flint, and though the free-ſtone faceings have been removed, the walls are ſtill near eight feet thick, and the cement employed in joining the ſtones is remarkably hard. There is ſtill to be ſeen a large room, near 16 yards broad, and 28 long, ſemicircular, with five narrow windows towards the eaſt, and three doors towards the weſt, with three windows over them;

it

Vol. I Page 50.

The Ruins of Reading Abbey.

it was arched over, and ſeems to have ſupported a chapel, in which, Dr. Stukeley ſuppoſes, king Henry and his queen and daughter were buried; and that over the arched vaults, ſtood the hall, lodgings, and other apartments: on a cloſe inſpection of theſe ruins, it ſhould ſeem that great part of the buildings were deſtroyed by fire; for in many parts of the wall, and the arched vaults, the ſtones and cement appear evidently black and ſmoky, and the ruins are ſo disjunct and ſcattered, as to juſtify the conjecture of its having been battered with cannon, or bombarded, perhaps in the civil wars of Charles I. Near the abbey is an artificial mount called Forbury-hill, which is very pleaſant, and has been lately repaired, by a voluntary ſubſcription of gentlemen and ladies: hence you have a delightful proſpect of the Thames, of the Oxfordſhire hills and woods, on the oppoſite ſide of the river, of the neighbouring villages, and of the Fertile-vale through which it takes its courſe.

Leland obſerves, that to the north of caſtle-ſtreet (probably ſo named from the caſtle being ſituated in or near it) there was a fair houſe of Grey Friars, erected before the year 1400, the ſcite of which was, from thence called Friar-ſtreet; but being afterwards granted to the corporation, it was converted into a houſe of correction. Not far from the church of St. Laurence was an alms-houſe for poor ſiſters, which in the reign of Henry VII. was made a Free-ſchool; and about the year 1134 one Auſgerus, or Aucherius the ſecond abbot of Reading, founded an hoſpital, for 12 leprous perſons, beſides chaplains, ſituated near the abbey, and dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. About the year 1190, Hugh the eighth abbot founded in the ſame neighbourhood, an hoſpital for 26 poor people, and the refreſhment of travellers and ſtrangers, and

obtained the church of St. Laurence to be appropriated to the ſupport of the charity.

This town was formerly famous for the great clothing trade, there being at one time 140 clothiers reſident therein; and in the reign of Edward the firſt, one Thomas Cole was denominated *the rich clothier of Reading*; it was even in thoſe remote times a great mart for corn, malt and meal; but the clothing manufacture is now very inconſiderable being carried farther weſt.

Reading, at preſent, is a very flouriſhing town, and contains at leaſt 8000 inhabitants: ſeveral of the ſtreets are handſome and ſpacious, but not well paved; and the houſes in general, excepting the antient ones about the market-place, are well built. That taſte for, or ſpirit of building, which ſeems to characterize the times, has reached Reading, and many good buildings have been lately erected: the three pariſh churches, dedicated to St. Mary, St. Lawrence and St. Giles, are ſo ſituated, as to form a triangle; and there are three meeting houſes for Diſſenters, and one for the Quakers. A weekly news-paper, called the Reading Mercury is printed in the town, and circulated over this and the neighbouring counties. The inhabitants ſend conſiderable quantities of Malt, Meal and Timber, by the river Thames, to London, in barges, ſome of which are of large burden, which bring in return, coals, ſalt, grocery, tobacco, and many other commodities. A manufacture of pins, others of carpetting, rugs, and ſuch like woollen goods are carried on ſucceſsfully, and there has been lately eſtabliſhed a manufactory of French and Dutch tapes, the ſecret of which was brought over by an enterprizing gentleman from Holland, and is likely to ſucceed.

The river Kennet, which, in ſeveral ſtreams, runs through the town, is navigable to Reading

and

and Newbury, where it will bear a barge of above 100 tons: it abounds with gudgeon, pike, eels, dace and trout, ſome of the latter growing to an amazing ſize.

Reading is governed by a mayor, 12 aldermen, and 12 burgeſſes, by whom, with the commonalty, their repreſentatives are elected. The market, which is the moſt conſiderable for corn in the united kingdoms, and plentifully ſupplied with proviſions, is on Saturday, and the four annual fairs, on Feb. 1, chiefly for Horſes, July 25, for Horſes and other cattle, and Sept. 21, for cheeſe. The diſtance of the town from London is 39 miles Weſt; from Newbury 17 Eaſt, and from Briſtol 75, on the ſame point. Sir Jacob Aſtley, had the title of baron of Reading, granted him in the reign of Charles I. it was afterwards conferred upon General Cadogan, created Earl of Cadogan, &c. on whoſe death it expired. The manor of the town was ſettled by king James I. after the death of his queen, on prince Charles his ſecond ſon, afterwards Charles I. but is now veſted in the corporation.

In the year 1643, Reading was beſieged and taken by the parliament's forces commanded by the Earl of Eſſex, conſiſting of 16000 foot and 3000 horſe: Sir Arthur Aſton, being governor, with a garriſon of 3000 foot and 300 horſe. The governor was wounded in the head at the beginning of the ſiege, whereupon the command devolved on Col. Richard Fielding: as ſoon as the king heard the town was inveſted, he detached commiſſary Wilmot, with a body of horſe, who found means to throw in an auxiliary party of 500 men, and ſome powder; but however, Fielding not thinking this relief ſufficient, demanded to capitulate, and a truce was agreed upon: in the mean time the king advanced with

his army from Oxford to relieve the place, and detached Ruthven, his general, lately created earl of Bath, who with a thouſand muſqueteers, vigorouſly ſet upon lord Roberts's and Buckeley's regiments, who defended Caverſham bridge, hoping the garriſon would ſecond his attempt, as he was ignorant of the truce; but finding no aſſiſtance from them, he retreated to the main army; and Fielding found means to wait upon his majeſty in the night, told him, he hoped to have liberty to march out with all his arms and baggage, and the king conſenting, next day the capitulation was ſigned, and the town ſurrendered.

In the year 1688, an alarm began at Reading, which inſtantaneouſly ſpread through the whole kingdom, that the Iriſh diſbanded ſoldiers of king James's army, where ravaging and murdering wherever they came: every town believed the next to it was actually in flames; and ſuch a pannic was raiſed, that every one was up in arms to defend himſelf: this was called *the Iriſh-cry*. About the ſame time, was a ſkirmiſh between a party of the prince of Orange's, and another of king James's troops, in which the latter were repulſed with little blood ſhed. This ſkirmiſh gave occaſion to the famous ballad of Lilliburlero, and the day is ſtill commemorated by the inhabitants.

Within leſs than a furlong to the S. W. of this town, and about 400 yards from the river Kennet, is a very remarkable natural curioſity, on a riſing ground, called Cats-grove-hill, which is a ſtratum of Oyſter-ſhells, on a bed of green ſand, under which is an hard rocky chalk: this ſtratum of ſhells runs through the hill, which is from 40, to 60 feet in perpendicular height, many hundred yards: when theſe oyſters are taken out, they have the appearance of real ones; the oppoſite valves being cloſed, as in their natural ſtate,

and

and of the uſual form: when opened the animal appears to be perfect, and the ſhell not in the leaſt petrified; but when expoſed to the air, crumble with the ſmalleſt preſſure. In the ſame ſtratum of ſand, the bones and teeth of other fiſh, have alſo been frequently found. Perhaps this phenomenon may be a veſtige of the univerſal deluge; for the hill is 40 miles from any part of the Sea.

Archbiſhop Laud, was the ſon of William Laud, a Reading clothier, and born in the pariſh of St. Lawrence, on Oct. 7, 1573; he received the rudiments of education at the free-ſchool, and perfected his ſtudies in St. John's College, Oxford, of which he was afterwards elected a fellow, and appointed grammar reader. By the intereſt of his two great patrons, Charles Blount earl of Devonſhire, and Richard Neile biſhop of Rocheſter, he became ſucceſſively vicar of Stanford in Northamptonſhire, rector of Weſt Tilbury in Eſſex, Preſident of St. John's College, Oxford, chaplain in ordinary to king James I. archdeacon of Huntingdon, dean of Glouceſter, prebendary of Weſtminſter, and biſhop of St. David's: in 1622, he contracted an acquaintance with George Villiers, marquiſs of Buckingham, before whom, and the counteſs his mother he had a conference with Fiſher the jeſuit, which confirmed thoſe noble perſons in the proteſtant religion. In 1626, he officiated at the coronation of king Charles I. as dean of Weſtminſter; his majeſty having forbid biſhop Williams, the dean of that church, to be preſent at the ceremony: in the courſe of the ſame year, he was tranſlated to the ſee of Bath and Wells, made dean of the chapel royal, and ſworn a privy counſellor: in 1628, he was promoted to the biſhopric of London; about two years after, he was elected chancellor of the univerſity of Oxford; and on the fourth of Auguſt,

1633, he was advanced to the archiepiſcopal ſee of Canterbury: that very morning a perſon came to him, and told him ſeriouſly, that he might, if he pleaſed, have a cardinal's hat; but this offer the biſhop refuſed; his anſwer was, "that ſomething dwelt within him, which would "not ſuffer that, till Rome were other than it "is." It muſt be owned, indeed, that, though ſtrongly ſuſpected of a bias towards popery, he appears to have been a true ſon of the church of England; for it is now well known that he incurred the diſpleaſure of her majeſty queen Henrietta, by complaining of the increaſe, and the inſolence of the catholics: true it is, he was a greater enemy to the Puritans, than the Papiſts; but this might probably, be owing to an opinion, that the church, as well as the ſtate, had much more to fear from the former, than the latter: it muſt be admitted, at the ſame time, that he was too rigid and inflexible in the obſervance of ſome ceremonies, which had nothing to do with the eſſence of religion; and the ſtrict enforcement of which, alarmed the weak, and diſguſted even the ſenſible part of the nation; in a word, by theſe, and ſeveral other means, he rendered himſelf ſo extremely unpopular, that, in the beginning of the long parliament, he was attacked in the lower houſe, on account of the canons made by the convocation. On the 18th of December 1640, he was accuſed, by the commons, of high-treaſon, and ſent to the tower: March 12, 1644, he was brought to his trial, which laſted twenty days; but his enemies, afraid to truſt the iſſue of the matter, to the verdict of the peers, or of a Middleſex jury, prepared againſt him a bill of attainder, which paſſed through both houſes, though not without difficulty; and he was accordingly executed on Tower-hill, January 10, 1645,

1645, in the 72d year of his age: he suffered with great fortitude and decorum; his body was interred in the church of All-hallows, Barking, London; but it was afterwards, viz. in July 1663, removed to Oxford, and deposited in the chapel of St. John's-college. He was certainly a man of probity and virtue, but of too warm and passionate a temper: his conduct in the Star-chamber and high Commission-court, has been generally condemned; but his prosecution of the king's Printers, for leaving out *Not*, in the seventh commandment, in the English bibles, has been always applauded. He was extremely anxious to establish an uniformity between the church of England and that of Scotland: a circumstance, which enraged the whole Scottish nation; and to the implacable resentment of that people, he is supposed, by most writers, to have fallen a sacrifice: he founded and endowed an hospital in his native town.

Reading also gave birth to that upright magistrate lord chief justice Holt.

We shall now accompany the curious traveller, according to the method we have laid down, to the places of note, on the several roads through this pleasant county.

The great western road from London, to the Land's-end in Cornwall, enters this county at Maidenhead, about 26 miles from London.

MAIDENHEAD is situated partly in the parish of Bray and partly in that of Cookham; and according to Leland, was formerly named South-Ailington, South-Ealington or Sudlington; some visionaries pretend it was called Maidenhead, from a head of one of the 1100 virgins, said to have suffered martyrdom with St. Ursula, which was held in great veneration; but Sirmondus, the jesuit, has destroyed this fine etymology, by demonstrat-

ing that inſtead of 1100, there were only two virgins martyred, Urſula and Undecimilla, the laſt of which was miſtaken by the ignorant monks, for *Undecim mille*.

This town, in 26 Edward III. about the middle of the 14th century, was incorporated by the name of the fraternity, or guild of the brothers and ſiſters of Maidenhithe; and in 30, Henry VI. its privileges were confirmed, and ſeveral new ones granted. After the reformation it was incorporated by the name of warden and burgeſſes, which charter it poſſeſſed until the reign of James II. who granted them a new one, by the name of mayor and aldermen. We are told by Leland, that in his time, at the weſt end of the bridge, was a great wharfage for timber and firewood, brought out of Windſor Foreſt, and from the great Fryth.

Maidenhead is a great thoroughfare from London to Briſtol, and ſeveral other places, and on that account is full of inns, for the entertainment of travellers; but had no great repute, 'till the bridge was built over the Thames, which brought the road from London, through the town, before which time travellers paſſed the river, at a place called Babham-end, where there was a ferry: the bridge (the barge pier of which, is the boundary between Berkſhire and Buckingh mſhire) is maintained by the corporation, who, to enable them to ſupport the expence, have tolls allowed them over as well as under it; and three trees annually out of Windſor Foreſt, for repairing it. There is a chapel of eaſe, founded by Mr. John Huſbands, which is an handſome brick building, and ſtands in the middle of the town: the miniſter is choſen by the inhabitants, in the common hall, and his income, or the greateſt part of it, is raiſed by ſubſcription: the town hall, built with timber

timber and plaiſter, under which the market is held, is old and ruinous.

In the year 1589, James Smith, Eſq; citizen and ſalter of London, erected an alms-houſe, in the part of the town which is in Cookham pariſh; it conſiſts of eight tenements or ſeparate apartments, for eight poor men and their wives, and he endowed it with 40l. a year; beſides which there have been ſeveral other donations to the poor of this place.

Maidenhead is governed by an high ſteward, a mayor, a ſteward ten aldermen, from whom two bridge maſters, are annually choſen; two ſerjeants at mace are alſo elected yearly; the mayor for the time being, is clerk of the market, and coroner, and together with the preceding mayor, and the ſteward, acts as a juſtice of peace: there is a goal for debtors and felons apprehended in the town.

The market is on Wedneſday, which is the more frequented from the conveniency of ſending goods to London by barges: the three fairs, on Wedneſday in Whitſon week, for horſes and cattle; on Sept. 29, for the ſame, and for hiring ſervants, and on Nov. 30, alſo for horſes and cattle.

The adjacent common, called Maidenhead-thicket, from its having been formerly a woody ſpot, has been long noted for the many highway robberies there committed. The road beyond the town, which was very narrow and incommodious, was conſiderably widened in the year 1764, by cutting away the hills on each ſide.

About a mile from Maidenhead, a road branches off to Henley, which thence runs to Abingdon and Oxford, and as it lies not much out of our way, we may juſt obſerve, that about two miles to the north of that road is BISHAM, or BISTLE-

SHAM

SHAM, where there was a precentory for knight templars, to whom Robert de Ferrariis gave the manor, in the reign of king Stephen. The templars, before their diſſolution granted it to Hugh Spenſer, and it afterwards came to William Montacute, earl of Saliſbury, who, in the year 1388, founded a priory for Auguſtine monks in its place, which was valued at 285l. 11s. per ann. at the diſſolution of monaſteries. King Henry VIII. after the ſurrendry of it, refounded and endowed it with lands, to the amount of 661l. 14s. 9d. per ann. for the maintainance of a mitred abbot, and 13 Benedictine monks; but about three years after, a ſecond ſurrendry was made of it, and in the ſeventh year of the reign of Edward VI. it came into lay hands. The church is ſmall but neat, in which the family of Hoby are generally interred; that family have the eſtate, though their principal ſeat is in Dorſetſhire. At the temple mills, one mile S. W. of Biſham, there was a manufactory of battery work (braſs-pans and kettles) carried on with ſucceſs, till the year 1720; but there are ſtill many hands employed, in braſs and copper works at that place. At Hurley, about three miles eaſt of Henley, and about half a mile north of this road, was a cell of Benedictine monks, to Weſtminſter-Abbey; founded by Geoffrey de Magnaville, or Mandeville, in the reign of William the conqueror: it was dedicated to St. Mary, and valued at the diſſolution, according to Burton, at 134l. per ann. but Dodſworth ſays only 122l. Hurley was formerly the eſtate of the Lovelaces, one of which family was created baron of Hurley, by Charles I. but was ſold to diſcharge the debts of one of his ſucceſſors, and was afterwards bought by Mr. Oakley, for 41,000l.

Having

Having thus taken our traveller out of his road, we muſt return to it with freſh alacrity, and conduct him to BRAY, a village about a mile to the left of the road, and about the ſame diſtance from Maidenhead, formerly famous for a time-ſerving vicar, who held the living at the reformation, and under Henry VIII. and during the reigns of Edward VI. Q. Mary, and Q. Elizabeth, was twice a papiſt, and twice a proteſtant, and being afterwards reproached for his want of principle and ſteadineſs, anſwered "He had al-"ways governed himſelf by what he thought a "very laudable principle, which was never on "any terms, if he could avoid it, to part with "his vicarage." It is now of little note, except that it gives name to the hundred in which it is ſituated. Near Bray is the duke of Marlborough's iſland, in which, about 25 years ſince, his grace built two elegant temples. Camden is of opinion, this part of the county was inhabited by the Bibroci, who ſubmitted to Cæſar, and put themſelves under his protection.

SHATTESBROOK, is a village between 3 and 4 miles beyond Maidenhead; where are the remains of a ſmall religious houſe, founded by Sir William Truſſel, of Cubbleſden, in Staffordſhire, in the reign of Edward III. dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt. It was a college and chantry, for one warden, five prieſts and two clerks, to which the church of Shatteſbrook was appropriated, and at the diſſolution it was valued at 34l. per ann. The late very learned Mr. Dodwell paſſed the evening of his days in this town, and amongſt other excellent writings, produced here his admirable book *De Cyclis veterum*: he lies buried in the church, with his learned friend, Mr. Francis Cherry.

LAURENCE-

LAURENCE-WALTHAM is about a mile and a half beyond Shatteſbrook, where, on the 10th of Auguſt, there is a fair kept for horſes and other cattle. This place formerly belonged to the cell at Hurley. In a field now called Weycock, was a conſiderable fort, in the time of the Romans, where coins of that people have frequently been found: Weycock, ſignifies the high-road, and there is ſtill a ſpot called Caſtle-hill, where they turn up Roman coins, whenever the land is ploughed. At a ſmall diſtance from Laurence-Waltham is a remarkable large field, called *Milly Field*, which contains a thouſand acres.

The village of TWYFORD is about two miles from Laurence-Waltham, and is half a mile in length: at the weſt-end, runs the little river Lodden: there is an alms-houſe for poor people, which is a commodious old brick building, but by whom founded is uncertain. The houſes as well in the village, as the adjoining fields, are partly in Berkſhire, and partly in Wiltſhire; a portion of which laſt is here ſurrounded by the former. Leland ſays, as he paſſed from Maiden-head, by a narrow woody way, to the Fryth, he went through this place, which was then a pretty townlet. At Twyford was a ſkirmiſh between a party of king James the ſecond's forces, and of thoſe of the prince of Orange, in which the latter had the advantage. The fair is on July 15, for horſes and other cattle. A ſmall diſtance from Twyford turnpike, cloſe to the road ſide, on the right hand, is a very whimſical habitation, lately erected, having neither door or windows on that ſide next the road.

Before we leave Reading, which is the next town on this road, it will not be improper to take notice, that between two and three miles N. E. of that town, and about the ſame diſtance north

north of Twyford, is the village of SUNNING, ſeated on the banks of the Thames, and on a riſing ground, remarkable for an old chapel, formerly reſorted to by pilgrims, for the cure of madneſs: this place was formerly a biſhop's ſee, the dioceſe of which, contained this county and that of Wilts: according to Leland, nine biſhops ſucceſſively ruled over it, the firſt of whom was Ethelſtan, and the laſt Hermanus, who removed the ſee to Sherburn, and from thence it was tranſlated to Saliſbury, the biſhops of which ſee are now lords of the manor, and had formerly a palace at Sunning.

Having paſſed Reading, with which already our traveller has been entertained, the next place of any account, upon the road, is

THEAL, About four miles from that town, which has two or three good inns, is a great thoroughfare to Bath, and adorned with ſeveral handſome modern built houſes: the whole adjacent country is beſpread with elegant ſeats, the proſpects are delightful, and the village itſelf is ſurrounded with garden-grounds, in which all ſorts of vegetables are raiſed for the ſupply of Reading market. At Bradfield, about a mile N. W. of Theal, a monaſtery was built by king Ina, before the year 699; but how long it ſubſiſted is not known.

WOOLHAMPTON, is near four miles weſt of Theal, which is but an indifferent village, chiefly remarkable for the quantity of peat aſhes burnt in the neighbourhood: theſe aſhes have ſuch a fertilizing quality, that the farmers twenty miles round, ſend for them to manure their lands: the road juſt beyond this place, is extremely narrow and inconvenient, there not being in ſome ſpots room for two carriages to paſs.

MORTIMER,

MORTIMER, is about three miles to the ſouth-eaſt of this part of the road, where there is a fair on Oct. 25, for horſes and Welſh cattle, and a little diſtance from thence, nearer the borders of Hampſhire, was a priory of benedictine monks, appertaining to the abbey of Vallemont in Normandy, which, upon the ſuppreſſion of alien priories, was granted to Eton college.

ALDERMARSTON, is a pretty village, near Mortimer, ſituated on an eminence, whence there is a charming proſpect of the river Kennet: the vicarage is in the gift of Queen's-college Oxford, and it is remarkable for a fine ſeat of the preſent baroneſs Stawel.

THATCHAM, is about three miles and a half from Woolhampton, and by the tradition of the inhabitants, was once a market town. At the entrance of this place, from the eaſt, on the right hand of the road, is an ancient building, formerly a chapel, but now converted into a free-ſchool; and in the centre of the town, is the altar of an old croſs, quadrangular, of free-ſtone, with ſteps of aſcent to the croſs, which has been long removed. Thatcham was a manor of the Winchcombs, from whom it came, by marriage, to Henry, late viſcount Bolingbroke.

SPENE, is a pleaſant village, probably the Spinæ of Antoninus (though ſome place this ſtation at Reading) from the ruins of which, Newbury is ſuppoſed to have riſen, the inhabitants traditionally acknowledging Spene to be the mother of their town, and what ſhould ſeem to confirm this, is, that part of the town lying next Spene, being called Spencham land, where there are ſeveral inns to accommodate paſſengers on this road, particularly two erected of late years, one at each extremity of the ſtreet, which are exceedingly elegant and commodious. About a

mile

mile further, the road defcends an hill, between Craven-park, and Wickham-heath, and leaves this county at Hungerford.

HUNGERFORD, was formerly called *Ingleford Charnam Street*, and there was ſome time ſince, an horn which held about a quart, and which appeared by the inſcription, to have been the gift of John of Gaunt, together with a fiſhery in a certain part of the river: it was from this place that the old barons of Hungerford took their ſirname and title, one of the firſt of whom, upon record, was born here, Sir Thomas Hungerford, ſpeaker of the houſe of commons, in 51 Edward III. which was the firſt parliament that elected a perſon to that office. Walter, his ſon, was ſteward of the houſhold to Henry V. who, for his bravery beſtowed upon him the caſtle and barony of Homet, in Normandy, *to hold to him and his heirs male, by homage and ſervice, to find the king and his heirs at the caſtle of Rouen, one lance, with a fox's tail hanging to it.* He was afterwards lord high treaſurer of England, in the reign of Henry VI. and created baron Hungerford. From an heireſs of this family, the earls of Huntingdon are deſcended, as is the family of Hungerfords of Wiltſhire, &c. As early as the reign of Edward I. there was an hoſpital in the town dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt. Dr. Richard Mayo, or Mayhew, the firſt preſident of Magdalen college, ſo appointed by the founder, was a native of Hungerford: he was alſo chancellor of the univerſity Oxford, and finally biſhop of Hereford.

This town is ſeated on the banks of the river Kennet, in a very low and ſwampy ſoil; is at preſent principally remarkable for the beſt trouts eels and cray-fiſh in the kingdom, and for being a great

a great thoroughfare between London, Bath, Briſtol and other places in the weſt, being diſtant 65 miles from the former: the town is governed by a conſtable, choſen annually, who is alſo lord of the manor, which is held immediately of the crown. The market is on Wedneſday, and the fair, on the 21ſt of Auguſt, for horſes, cows and ſheep. The church, which is a handſome old ſtructure, ſtands near the river, detached, as it were, from the town. The late Mr. Hungerford, an eminent barriſter at law, preſented to the church, a fine ſervice of communion plate, on which his arms are engraved, which are very carefully preſerved.

We ſhall now enter the right hand road which breaks off from the road we have been purſuing, a little to the north eaſt of Hungerford, and joins the road from Abingdon to Portſmouth about two miles to the eaſt of Eaſt-Hendred.

After paſſing ſeveral villages of little account, this road leaves to the Eaſt, LAMBOURN, which is ſeven miles north of Hungerford, about five to the weſt of the road, and a place of great antiquity, having belonged to Alfrith, couſin of king Alfred, who bequeathed it to him by his will: it was afterwards the patrimony of the Fitzwarrins, who obtained the privilege of a market from Henry III. It is delightfully ſituated, in an open country, has a market on Fridays, and four fairs, on May 12, Whitmonday, October 2, and December 4, all for Horſes, young foals, cows, boots and ſhoes. On the north ſide of the church is an hoſpital for 10 poor men, ſix of them nominated by the warden of New-college, Oxon. and 4 by the family of Hippeſley, of Lamborun: it was founded and endowed by John Iſbury, Eſq; in 1502; and the penſioners have amongſt them 22s. per week, three loads

loads of wood, a certain quantity of wheat, and malt yearly; alſo a ſhare of the fine, paid every ſeventh year, for renewing the leaſe.

In the pariſh of Chaddleworth near Lambourn, at a place called ELLENFORDS-MERE, there was in very early times, an hermitage, on the ſcite of which, Ralph de Chaddleworth, in 1160, founded a priory of regular canons of the order of St. Auſtin, and dedicated it to the honour of St. Margaret; this religious houſe was afterwards called Poghele, and was endowed with 50l. per ann. in the reign of Edward IV. When, with other ſmall monaſteries, it was diſſolved, by cardinal Wolſey, the annual revenue, was 71l. 10s. 7d.

GREAT-FAWLEY, about two miles from Lambourn, and cloſe to the road, only merits notice for being the ſeat of the Mores, deſcendants of Sir Francis More, who was interred in a vault under the church.

WEST-ILSLEY, is a village about four miles beyond Great-Fawley, and more north-ward the road runs through Cuckhamſley hills, over which the Danes paſſed in the year 1006, after they had plundered Wallingford. In Mr. Wiſe's curious letter to Dr. Mead, ſome ingenious conjectures relative to theſe Hills, cannot fail of giving great ſatisfaction to the enquiring reader. This was formerly the lordſhip or manor of a family of that name, a branch of which ſettled at Beenham, and were, by corruption, called Hilſey, from whom deſcended Dr. John Hilſey, who ſucceeded biſhop Fiſher in the ſee of Rocheſter.

And now having proceeded as far as the famous vale of White-Horſe, we ſhall turn out of the road, between four and five miles to the weſt, and pay a viſit to

WANTAGE,

WANTAGE, a pretty neat town, which may be ſtiled the capital of that rich vale, and is ſeated on a branch of the river Ocke. It was a royal villa in the time of the Saxons, and was rendered illuſtrious, by being the birth-place of king Alfred, who bequeathed it, at his death to Alfrith, his couſin: it was made a market town, by the intereſt of Fulk Fitzwarin, upon whom Roger Bigod, earl marſhal of England, beſtowed it, for his ſingular courage and conduct in war. The market is on Saturdays, and the three fairs on the firſt Saturday in March, July 8, and September 17, for horſes, cows, calves, hogs, cheeſe and hops; and it is 59 miles weſt of London. The late learned Dr. Butler, biſhop of Durham, was born in this town.

Mr. Salmon imagines this was the Glevum or Clevum of Antoninus, making Bleſtium, Glouceſter and Ariconium, Cirenceſter: Mr. Wiſe is alſo of opinion, that Wantage was a Roman town, though it is difficult, at this diſtance of time, to trace out the veſtiges; but that the caſtrum, or fortification is plainly diſcoverable on the ſouth ſide of the brook, which incloſes a ſpot called *the high-garden*. The hollow way into the town, from Farringdon, with Groveſtreet (formerly alſo an hollow way) and a piece of running water, now a moraſs, which divides the high garden from the lower, make three ſides of an oblong ſquare, and the river the fourth: the ground incloſed may be about ſix acres, and here he thinks ſtood the Saxon palace, wherein king Alfred was born: on the north ſide of the brook, he adds, is an incloſure, called Limborough, where Roman coins have been often found, and he had ſeen one of braſs, then lately ploughed up, of Valens, the reverſe *Securitas Reipublicæ*. On the outſide of the fortification, between

between Limborough and the river; many years ſince, were diſcovered the remains of a building, called by the inhabitants *the cellar* and *king Alfred's cellar*, paved with brick, which ſhould ſeem to have been a bath: the high-garden may be ſuppoſed to be a Saxon remain, as containing the king's palace, though originally Roman: between Limborough and the brook is a cloſe, called *court-cloſe*, and another little ſpot, in ſome modern writings ſtiled *Paddock's-more*, alias Pablet's more, which Mr. Wiſe thinks a corruption of *Palace-moor*.

In our account of Reading it was obſerved that the Danes were defeated in 871, by Ethelwolph, near Inglefield, and according to Aſſer, 8 days afterwards, at Aſhdown, by king Alfred; antiquaries have differed much, in relation to the place, where this battle was fought, that is where Aſhdown was ſituated: Mr. Wiſe thinks it is that ridge of hills from Letcombe, and its neighbourhood, running into Wiltſhire, and overlooking the vale and its towns, which contains large tracks of downs, and ſheep-paſture, where the great weſtern road now paſſes, called the *Rudge* or *Ridge-way*: there was formerly hereabout plenty of Aſhtrees, whence its name; and near Letcombe is a ſhrubby place, ſtill called *the Aſhes*, and *Letcombe aſhes*, and where lately grew a number of thoſe trees: thus far, he thinks Aſhdown extended eaſt-ward, if not further, to a place called *Aſhen Pen*; he ſuppoſes, that a town was built, called Ayſhedoune (now Aſhbury) on the weſtern limits as appears from a charter of king Edred, dated in 947, and the old name is ſtill preſerved by the Shepherds, who call the ſheep-downs in their neighbourhood Aſhdown. Beſides, about a mile ſouth of Aſhbury, is Aſhdown, or Aſhen-Park, a hunting

ſeat

ſeat of lord Craven. Here then, with apparent reaſon, Mr. Wiſe, think the field of battle is to be placed; as upon the ſummit of the higheſt hill, north eaſt-ward, (now called White-Horſe hill) is a large Roman intrenchment, denominated *Uffington* caſtle, from overlooking the town of Uffington, in the vale: here he ſuppoſes the Danes were encamped, becauſe Aſſer ſays they had got the upper ground. About a mile lower to the weſt, nearer to Aſhbury, on the brow of the hill, overlooking a farm houſe, called Hardwell, is a camp, apparently fortified with two ditches, in the Saxon manner; and here, he imagines, king Ethelred, Alfred's brother, lay the night before the battle. About a mile or more from hence, behind the wood of Aſhdown Park, is a roundiſh intrenchment, ſeemingly thrown up in haſte, called *Aſhbury-camp*, and king Alfred's caſtle: Mr. Wiſe ſtill further obſerves, that beſides theſe traces of a great battle having been fought in this neighbourhood, there are barrows ſcattered all over the downs in great numbers: this diligent antiquary, however, ingenuouſly acknowledges there is a circumſtance that bears hard upon his hypotheſis, and that is the ſituation of Aſhbury with reſpect to Cuckhamſley hill, as it is related in the Saxon annals, under the year 1006, *that the Danes came to Allingford, and entirely deſtroyed that place, and from thence went along Aſhdown to Cwichelms-low*, now, with much reaſon, thought to be Cuckhamſley hill, by the common people called *Cuchinſlow*, *Scuchinſlow*, and *Scuchamere*: this paſſage of the Saxon annals, has induced ſome to fix the field of battle at Aſton, which is ſituated between Wallingford and Cuckhamſley hill, ſuppoſing that to be the old Aſhdown: but it is probable that this was a miſtake of the

tran-

White Horse Hill in the County of Berks.

Vol. I. Page 71.

tranſcriber, who ſhould have ſaid they went by Cwichelmes-low to Aſhdown, or perhaps the downs between Cwichelmes-low and Wallingford, as well as thoſe between Aſhbury and Cwichelmes-low, might all be comprehended within the old Aſhdown.

On the high hill, juſt mentioned, almoſt underneath Uffington caſtle, is the figure of a *White Horſe*, which Mr. Wiſe ſuppoſes was a memorial made by king Alfred's order, of this great battle, nor can any conjecture be more natural, as the White Horſe was then the Saxon ſtandard, and is ſtill borne in the arms of every branch of the Saxon family: this noted horſe is formed on the ſteep part of the hill, facing the north-weſt: its dimenſions are extended over about an acre of ground: its head, neck, body and tail, conſiſt of one white line, as does alſo each of its four legs; this was performed by cutting a trench in the chalk, of the depth of two or three feet, and about ten feet in breadth; the chalk of the trench being of a brighter colour than the turf which ſurrounds it; the rays of the mid-day ſun darting thereon, renders the whole figure viſible, at more than 12 miles diſtance. This horſe is deſigned in a manner much beyond what might be expected, from the rudeneſs of the time, which is apparent from the works of their beſt maſters, the Saxon coins and the jewel of Alfred, deſcribed by Dr. Hickes and others, and now preſerved in the muſeum at Oxford: from the ſituation, there is no danger of the horſe being obliterated; yet the neighbouring inhabitants have a cuſtom of *ſcouring the Horſe*, as they call it, when there is kept a kind of ſolemn feſtival, man-like games are exhibited, and prizes beſtowed, inſtituted, originally

originally, in the opinion of Mr. Wise, in the Saxon times, in memory of the victory.

A probable reason may be assigned why the Saxon's bore in their standards the figure of a White Horse; if we reflect that the inhabitants of the island of Rugen, who speak the dialect of lower Saxony, and were the latest converted to Christianity, had a White Horse attending upon their Idol Zantwit or Swant, which was under the management of his priest, and from which they likewise took presages.

From this figure of the White Horse, the whole fruitful vale beneath takes its name: Camden passes over this fine monument of antiquity, with shameful negligence, whereas had he made proper enquiries, considered its situation, and attended to the custom of *scouring the Horse*, of which any of the neighbouring inhabitants could have informed him, he would not have found his time misemployed, and must have discovered that this ceremony was instituted in commemoration of some public action.

The horse stands in the parish of Uffington; but other towns claim, by ancient usage, a share of the duty of *scouring it*. As this ceremony might be of great use, if performed at regular and stated times, 'tis pity it is not observed; because it might be serviceable to the common people in their reckoning of time, which they now compute from their seed-times and fallows; but in such case, they might calculate from *the second, third, or fourth year of the scouring of the horse*: nay, as Mr. Wise observes, it might still have a more general effect, by furnishing a new æra in our English history, viz. *the restoration of the Saxon Olympics*. In the Harleian library, now a part of the British museum, is a manuscript intituled, *Thomas Baskerville, Esq. of Sunning-*

Sunning-Well, in Berkſhire, his journal of his travels over great part of England, in the years 1677, 1678, *folio.* This gentleman calls the white horſe *an ancient landmarke, or remarkable work of antiquity, giving name to the Vale of the White Horſe*; obſerving, that *in the way betwixt Farringdon and Hyworth, ſome five or ſix miles diſtante, is the beſt proſpect of the white horſe, cut in the ſide of a white chalky hill, a mile above Uffington*; *and*, he adds, that *ſome that dwell hereabout have an obligacion upon their lands, to repair and cleanſe this landmarke.* However, there does not appear to be any ſuch tenure in the neighbourhood remaining at this time; but this is not to be wondered at, when we conſider how often the lands have been alienated, and that it is the intereſt of every purchaſer to exonerate them, as much as is poſſible, from all incumbrances.

Mr. Wiſe having thus, in great meaſure, ſettled the place where this battle of Aſhdown was fought, obſerves, that the perſon of the greateſt note killed therein was one of the Daniſh kings or leaders, and that it is probable the place of his burial was upon a ſpot in the field of battle, diſtinguiſhed by a parcel of ſtones ſet edgeways, and incloſing a piece of ground raiſed a few feet above the common level, as was the cuſtomary method of the Danes and other northern nations. This monument is called by the country people *Weyland Smith*, and they give the following account of it: "At this place lived formerly an "inviſible ſmith: and if a traveller's horſe had "loſt a ſhoe upon the road, he had no more to "do than to bring the horſe to this place, with "a piece of money, and leaving both there for "ſome little time, he might come again, and "find the money gone, but the horſe new ſhod." Mr. Aubrey's account of it is, "About a mile

" (or leſs) from the hill (White-horſe-hill) " there are a great many large ſtones, which, " though very confuſed, muſt yet be laid there " on purpoſe. Some of them are placed edge-" wiſe, but the reſt are ſo diſorderly, that one " would imagine they were tumbled out of a " cart." This diſorder proceeds from the people having thrown down ſome of the ſtones and broken them, to mend the highways. Thoſe which are left incloſe a piece of ground of an irregular figure; but which might formerly have been an oblong ſquare, extending due north and ſouth. On the eaſt ſide of the ſouthern extremity ſtand three ſquariſh flat ſtones, of about four or five feet over each way, ſet on edge, and ſupporting a fourth of much larger dimenſions, which lies flat upon them. Theſe altogether form a cavern, or ſheltering place, much reſembling thoſe deſcribed by Wormius, Mon. Danic. and others. This is preſumed to be the only monument of the kind in England; but in Wales, and particularly in the iſland of Angleſea, are many ſimilar ones, which are aſcribed to the ancient Britons. Theſe we have already taken notice of, in the deſcription of that iſland, where the natives call them *Cromleches*. As to this, Mr. Wiſe is fully of opinion it is Daniſh.

About a mile from hence, and nearer king Alfred's caſtle, is a remarkable place, called *the Seven Barrows*; but though this be the common term, the number is not ſo few as ſeven, nor are there ſeven more remarkable than the reſt; for Mr. Wiſe counted no leſs than twenty, within the compaſs of ſix or ſeven hundred yards. Here he ſuppoſes the nobility ſlain in the battle of Aſhdown were interred. Theſe barrows are of various forms; there is one long, and two or three, which Dr. Stukeley calls Celtic, with a ring of earth

earth, a little raiſed above the level, and incloſing a piece of ground with a ſmall eminence in the midſt.

It was the Daniſh cuſtom, and that of other northern people, to ſacrifice ſome favourite animal to the manes of the deceaſed, which generally accompanied the body, whether buried or burned. In one of theſe barrows, lately dug up, between Weyland-Smith and Wantage, were found, beſide a human ſkeleton, the horns of a ſtag, probably buried with the deceaſed, on account of his having been fond of hunting.

Perſuaded our traveller is not diſpleaſed with this digreſſion, we ſhall accompany the ingenious Mr. Wiſe a little further, and lay before him his opinion of the courſe of the Ickenild-ſtreet.

The name of this great road is generally derived from the Iceni, inhabitants of Cambridgeſhire, Norfolk, and Suffolk, where it ſeems to begin; but Mr. Wiſe imagines it may as reaſonably have been denominated from the name of the perſon who conſtructed it; in the ſame manner as the *Via Appia*, *Æmilia*, *Flaminia*, *Valeſia*, *Aurelia*, in other countries. This perſon, he conjectures, may have been Agricola, Veſpaſian's lieutenant in Britain; for if ſimilarity of ſound is of any import in forming an opinion on ſuch a ſubject, it will decide in favour of Agricola, as, in many places of this road, the moſt authentic name for it will be found to be the *Ickle* or *Rickle* way; and if the names of towns be of any weight, as they certainly muſt, it will greatly favour this conjecture. In its weſtward courſe, from Barley in Hertfordſhire, where it is firſt diſcovered by antiquaries, it runs through a town called *Ickleford*, in which pariſh is an hamlet called *Romrick*, quaſi *Roman-rick*, or *rickle*. Dr. Stukeley obſerves alſo, it is called *Icling-lake*.

Croſſing Buckinghamſhire, it enters Oxfordſhire at Chinner, through which county Dr. Plot has traced it to *Goring*, and acroſs the Thames to Streately in Berkſhire, which receives name from it, and there Mr. Gale gives it up for loſt. But though it loſes its name, it ſtill maintains its courſe weſtward to Blubery, being viſible enough near that town; and at a little diſtance from the road, between that place and Aſton, there is an hill called *Bluberton*, or *Bluberdon*, which appears to have been a ſtrong Roman fortification, tho' the works are at preſent almoſt demoliſhed by the plough. The way is known here by no other name than that of the *great Reading road*. From Blubery it undoubtedly went to Wantage; but whether its direction was the ſame with the modern great road to Upton and Harwell, being called the *Port-way*, the uſual name for a Roman road; or its true courſe was to Chilton; more on the leſt, under the hills, and is now loſt in ploughed fields, till we come near *Lockynge*, where is a raiſed way, ſtill called *Ickleton-mere*, Mr. Wiſe did not examine; but immediately after it has paſſed Wantage, it goes by its true name *Ickleton-way*, all under the hills (as before under the Chiltern, through Bucks and Oxfordſhire) between them and Childrey, Sparſholt, Uffington, under the White Horſe-hill, leaving Woolſton and Compton on the right hand; thence to Aſhbury and Biſhopſton, pointing towards Abury in Wiltſhire, and continues, perhaps, ſays our curious antiquary, to the Devizes; but not to Saliſbury, as is generally ſuppoſed.

Our learned author, recommends the tracing its eaſtern courſe, from Barley, in Hertfordſhire, and thinks that in the names of towns, the ſound is ſufficient to conduct us a conſiderable way: Camden and others have obſerved, that it tends from

from Barley to *Ickleton*, *Icaltune*, or *Icaldune* (for ſo variouſly it is written) in Cambridgeſhire; near which ſtood a ſmall Roman city, named *Borough-bank*; thence, Mr. Wiſe imagines it might go to *Iclingham*, in Suffolk, and afterwards to *Ickleworth*, in the ſame county, and that it poſſibly might then be met with at Hackford, a ſmall village in Norfolk, and end its courſe a little beyond *Hickling* a market town, not far from the Sea coaſt. In ſhort, Mr. Wiſe is of opinion, that this antient road is, for the moſt part, to be ſought for under that ridge of chalky hills, which runs acroſs the kingdom, from eaſt to weſt.

Between the Ickleton way, and White-Horſe hill, under the Horſe, is a large Barrow, which the common people thereabout call *Dragon-hill*; and their tradition is, that "here St. George "killed the Dragon." They ſhow beſides a bare place on the top of it, which is a plain about 50 or 60 yards over, where the turf does not intrude, which they ſay proceeds "from the ve-"nomous blood that iſſued from the Dragon's "wound." That this was a funeral monument can hardly be doubted, and it is more than probable it was erected by the Britons, to the memory of one of their kings who was killed in battle. And this it is moſt likely was the caſe, as the Britons did not give up this country, 'till the cloſe of the ſixth century. One battle was fought ſo late as the year 581, at Wanborough, about five miles from this place, wherein the Britons were conquerors. Before, in the year 577, three Britiſh kings were ſlain, at *Deorham*, in Glouceſterſhire, and three towns taken from the Britons, Glouceſter, Bathonceſter and Cirenceſter, the laſt of which is about 15 miles from Dragon-hill. In the year 556, Cynric and Ceawlin, overcame the Britons at *Beranbury*,

which the learned Commentator on Camden ſuppoſes to be *Barbury-caſtle*, about five miles from this place; nor is it improbable that the battle of *Mons Badonicus*, mentioned by Gildas, Bede and Nennius, was fought ſomewhere in this neighbourhood. This laſt battle, happened, according to the beſt accounts, in the year 520: theſe, with many others, were the reaſons that induced Mr. Wiſe to think *Dragon-hill* was the burial place of ſome Britiſh chief, who fell in one of the laſt ſtruggles for the liberties of his country, fighting, in all probability, againſt the Weſt-Saxons, whoſe kingdom extended into theſe parts.

The great Alfred, as before obſerved, was born at Wantage, in the year 849. At five years of age, he was carried by his father to Rome, where he was ſolemnly crowned, and anointed, by Pope Leo. IV; and he returned to the ſame place in the latter part of his life, when theſe ceremonies were repeated, by Pope Adrian II. As he was but a fifth ſon, he ſpent his youth in the ſervice of his brothers, who regularly ſucceeded their father on the throne, and who found no little difficulty in expelling the Danes, who had continued for a long time to infeſt this iſland. Aſcending the throne himſelf, on the death of all his brothers, in 871, he diſplayed, during his whole reign, the moſt undaunted courage, and the moſt conſummate prudence. He defeated the Danes in ſeveral pitched battles; but was reduced by them, at one time, to ſuch a low condition, that in order the more effectually to conceal himſelf, he was obliged to take ſhelter in the houſe of one of his Neat-herds. In a little time after he retired to the iſle of Athelney, where he continued for a twelve-month. But having at laſt collected a good body of troops, and having previouſly

ouſly examined the enemies camp, in the diſguiſe of a Harper, he marched ſuddenly againſt them, and attacking them unawares with irreſiſtible fury, he gave them ſuch a terrible overthrow, that they were never able, during the remaining part of his reign, to create him any conſiderable diſturbance. Nor were Alfred's civil abilities inferior to his military talents. He divided the kingdom into ſhires, trythings, and hundreds; inſtituted juries; compoſed a body of laws, which is generally conſidered as the foundation of the *common law of England*; and, in a word, eſtabliſhed ſuch excellent regulations throughout all his dominions, that he is ſaid to have hung up, by way of bravado, golden bracelets near the high-ways; and no one dared to touch them. He tranſlated Bede's and Oroſius's hiſtories, and Boethius concerning the conſolation of Philoſophy. He erected public ſchools in every part of the kingdom; founded, or at leaſt repaired the univerſity of Oxford; gave preferment to none but ſuch as had made ſome proficiency in knowledge: and having thus reigned twenty-nine years, the delight of his own ſubjects, and the admiration of all Europe, he departed this life in 901, in the fifty-third year of his age.

Alfred ſeemed deſigned by providence for the period in which he lived: to reſcue from total ruin, a nation upon the brink of deſtruction, attacked from without by powerful enemies, and within, by ignorance, ſloth, and the want of almoſt every virtue. He wanted no qualification that might render him beloved by his ſubjects, and dreaded by his enemies. Though of a weak bodily conſtitution, his ſoul was active, vigorous, and enterprizing, fitted to animate every branch of good government. He it was, who firſt taught us to defend ourſelves by a naval force,

and indeed, his life ſeemed wholly devoted to do his country ſervice. His public virtues were worthy the imitation of princes, and his private life was not taxed with any vice: he was a tender huſband, and parent, the friend and companion of men of letters; learned himſelf, affable and generous: and to conclude the whole, ſays Mr. Wiſe, eminently pious. That ſo great and good a prince, ſhould not have had his actions recorded by any one, amongſt the learned of his ſubjects muſt appear ſurpriſing: this taſk was left to be performed by a ſtranger, (Aſſer) in a manner, taken from amongſt his enemies, a people whoſe hatred to the Saxon name was notorious (for ſuch, at that time were the Welſh, who continue ſo to this day.) This hiſtorian has not, perhaps, written with all the elegance of more modern times; but his *life of Alfred*, is certainly far above what could be expected from the rudeneſs of the age he lived in: his deſcriptions are nervous and ſpirited, and he conveys to us the image of the moſt perfect and accompliſhed monarch that ever graced the Engliſh throne. This prince is ſaid to have written *the commentaries of his own wars*, the loſs of which is invaluable. Traditions, no doubt, were remaining of Alfred, for ſeveral ages, eſpecially among the inhabitants of Somerſetſhire, Wiltſhire, and Hampſhire, once part of his kingdom, the places of his reſidence, and the ſcenes of ſome of his greateſt actions. William of Malmſbury ſays, that in his time, *the people uſed to ſhew the places where he had been worſted and diſtreſſed.* Had he lived to the common age of man, he would, in all probability, have left the nation in flouriſhing and laſting peace.

But to return, at HAM or HAMS, in the pariſh of Wantage, in the time of king John, was a con-

convent of black Nuns, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen.

EAST LOCKINGE, is a village one mile and an half eaſt of Wantage, and is a rectory valued at upwards of 300l. per ann. which was long in the gift of the maſter and fellows of All Souls College, Oxford; but in the beginning of the year 1764, an act of parliament was obtained to annex it to the wardenſhip of that college.

CHILDREY is a village two miles weſt of Wantage, anciently the ſeat of Sir John Childrey, who lies buried in the north iſle of the church, and his ſtatue, in armour, is cut in ſtone. Here is a free-ſchool, founded by William Fettiplace, Eſq; who was, alſo, a great benefactor to Queen's College, Oxford. A part of the Roman highway, called Icknield-ſtreet, runs juſt above Childrey; it is a ridge-way, and goes by the name of Ickleton, or Portway.

KINGSTON-LISLE, about four miles W. by N. from Wantage, is ſituated in a moſt delightful ſporting country, being at the edge of the fineſt part of the downs. It has been chiefly noted, for being the lordſhip of the noble family *De Inſula*, or De L'Iſle. From them it deſcended by an heireſs to the Talbots, a younger branch of the illuſtrious family of the Earls of Shrewſbury, who enjoyed the titles of baron and viſcount Liſle, in her right. By another heireſs it went to the Greys, and by Elizabeth, ſiſter and heir of John Grey, viſcount Liſle, it went to Arthur Plantagenet, natural ſon of Edward IV, who married her. Arthur dying, without iſſue male, John Dudley, ſon of the ſaid Elizabeth, by a former huſband, was created viſcount Liſle; he being attainted, however, in the reign of queen Mary, his ſon Ambroſe was reſtored by queen Elizabeth, created baron Liſle and earl of Warwick, and

dying without iſſue, the title was revived in the reign of James I. in the perſon of Robert Sidney (ſon of a ſiſter of John Dudley) who was created baron Sidney, of Penſhurſt, viſcount Liſle, and afterwards earl of Leiceſter, in whoſe family the eſtate ſtill remains, though the titles are dormant.

South and North DENCHWORTH, are about three miles N. of Wantage, the firſt the ancient ſeat of the Hides, the laſt of the Fettiplaces, which families are ſuppoſed to be both derived from the ſame ſtock. Though their names are different, their arms are the ſame, argent, two cheverons, gules. The church was probably built by one of the Hides, their arms appearing not only in the windows, but in the walls of the church and the chancel. Within the pariſh there is an eſtate ſtill known by the name of *Hide*, wherein is a ſquare moat, ſuppoſed to have been a fiſh-pond, near the antient ſeat. From that place they very probably were denominated, as, in old writings they are ſtiled *at Hide*. The family was originally Norman, and came in with William I. and were lords of this manor for 19 generations. The laſt, at Denchworth, was Sir—— Hide, who was made a knight of the Bath, at the coronation of king James I. That gentleman ſold the manor of Denchworth to Sir William Cockaine, knt. alderman of London, whoſe ſon, the viſcount Cullen, of Ireland, diſpoſed of it to the family of Geering, the preſent poſſeſſors. A part, however, of the family eſtate of the Hides, is now poſſeſſed by Laſcoe Hide, Eſq; deſcended from it. Over the church porch, in the year 1693, Gregory Geering, Eſq; erected a ſmall library, wherein he depoſited many valuable books for the uſe of the vicar, ſince which

which the number has been conſiderably increaſed.

We ſhall now return with our fellow-traveller to the road from which we have made, we hope, no diſagreeable excurſion.

EAST HENDRED is about a mile to the weſt of this road, and about three miles N. E. of Wantage, and is a village containing about an hundred and fifty houſes; though about the time of the ſuppreſſion of monaſteries it was a conſiderable market town. It is ſeated at the edge of the Downs, on the borders of the vale of White Horſe, to the north of Cuckhamſley hill, and is in two different hundreds, thoſe of Wanting and Reading. To the north eaſt of the town is an old chapel of Freeſtone, which, about 150 years ſince, was called the chapel of Jeſus of Bethlehem; but of late years Champ's chapel, from its belonging to a perſon of that name. The upper part has been long converted into a pigeon-houſe, and the lower into a waſh-houſe. Old foundations and cavities overgrown with graſs, ſuppoſed to have been wells, are met with in the heart of the town. On the ſouth is a cart road which leads to Weſt Hendred, called Pater-noſter Benoke, on the north ſide of which is piece of land, called Chapel Furlong, which was held by the tenure of praying for the dead. About a mile and an half, S. by W. of that pariſh, at a place called Ginge, a little brook riſes, which runs through Weſt Hendred, and traverſing thence the fields of Eaſt Hendred, flows by Steventon-green and Milton, and after driving ſeveral mills in its courſe, falls into the Thames, at Sutton-Courtney.

Oppoſite Eaſt Hendred this road joins the great one from Oxford to Chicheſter, in Suſſex, which we

we ſhall now travel, from the firſt remarkable place in this county, which is

ABINGDON, the county town. It takes its name from an abbey, which is ſaid by hiſtorians to have been one of the fineſt and richeſt in England, and founded by Heane, nephew of Ciſſa, father of king Ina, or by Ciſſa himſelf, about the year 675. The Monks, terrified by the approach of the Danes, in the reign of Alfred the great, forſook it; but it was rebuilt, and reſtored to them, in the year 955, by king Edred, at the perſwaſion of Ethelwold, the abbot, who was then biſhop of Wincheſter. King William I. kept his eaſter here in 1084, and his ſon Henry had his education alſo in this abbey, where ſeveral remarkable perſons were buried, particularly the famous Geoffrey of Monmouth, the fabulous Engliſh hiſtorian, who was one of the abbots. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and the Monks were of the Benedictine order. At the diſſolution of monaſteries, it was entirely demoliſhed, with all the tombs and monuments, and was then valued at 2042l. per ann. according to Burton; but Dugdale ſays at not more than 1876l.

This town is of great antiquity, and appears to have been conſiderable even in the times of the ancient Britons, for the devotions there exerciſed; for after the Saxons had driven that people away, they found croſſes and other ſigns of Chriſtianity. The learned annotator on Camden, imagines it was the place called, in the Saxon annals Cloveſhoo, where two ſynods were held in 742 and 822, which is very probable, as its ſituation was convenient, in the kingdom of Mercia, and as its name before the building of the abbey was Shoveſham, which might eaſily have been formed from Cloveſhoo, or Cloveſhoh. *The old book of Abbendon* informs us, "that Sho-

"veſham

" veſham was, in ancient times a famous city " goodly to behold, full of riches, encompaſſe- " with very fruitful fields, green meadows, ſpa- " cious paſtures, and flocks of cattle abounding " with milk: that the king kept his court here; " and hither people reſorted, whilſt conſulta- " tions were depending about the greateſt and " moſt weighty affairs of the kingdom." By theſe conſultations probably were meant the ſynods abovementioned.

There was a fine croſs in the town, taken notice of by Leland and Camden, which was deſtroyed in the time of the grand rebellion.

Abingdon was erected into a free borough and corporation by queen Mary I. to be governed by a mayor, two bailiffs, and nine aldermen, who formerly had the ſole right of chuſing one member to repreſent the borough in parliament; but the election is now in the inhabitants paying ſcot and lot, and not receiving alms, or any charity.

It is ſeated on the banks of the river Iſis, over which there is a bridge, and conſiſts at preſent, of ſeveral ſtreets terminating in a ſpacious area, which is a conſiderable market for wheat, barley, and other grain. The two churches are dedicated to St. Helen and St. Nicholas, the firſt of which has a ſpire, and they are both ſaid to have been built by one of the abbots of Abingdon. In the church of St. Helen, eight new bells were hung, in the ſummer of the year 1764, and were rung, for the firſt time on June 10, when they proved to be one of the moſt tuneable peals in England. St. Helen's entirely depended upon the abbey before the great road was turned through the town, which was occaſioned by building the bridges of Burford and Culham, by Henry V. in the year 1416; that

he

he ordered theſe works appears from a diſtich which was to be ſeen in the church window:

Henricus quintus, quarto fundaverat anno,
Rex pontem Burford, ſuper undas atque Culham-
ford.

Jeffery Barbeur, a merchant of Abingdon, greatly promoted the work, and gave 1000 marks towards finiſhing the cauſeway between the two bridges. At the diſſolution, the inhabitants removed his monument from the abbey church to St. Helen's where it ſtill remains.

Near the ſcite of the church of St. Helen a nunnery was built by Cilla, ſiſter of Heane, founder of the abbey, in the year 690, who was herſelf the firſt abbeſs, it being then called Hellenſtow. After her death the nuns removed to Witham; but in the year 780, when the war broke out between the Mercians and Weſt-Saxons, they were obliged to diſperſe, and never aſſembled again.

The market-houſe is a curious ſtructure, erected on lofty pillars, ſupporting a ſpacious hall, in which the aſſizes for the county, are frequently held. The two markets are on Mondays and Tueſdays, and the four fairs on the firſt Monday in Lent, June 20, Sept. 19, and Dec. 11, all for horſes and other cattle. The inhabitants make great quantities of malt, and ſeveral large barges are employed in conveying it, with other goods, to the London market. Beſides a charity-ſchool, a free-ſchool was founded in the year 1563, by John Roiſe.

Abingdon gives the title of earl to a branch of the illuſtrious family of Bertie. It is ſix miles and an half ſouth of Oxford, and 56 W. by N. from London.

Sir

Sir John Maſon, an eminent ſtateſman in the XVIth century, was born in this town, of very mean parentage; his father being a Cow-herd, his mother ſiſter to a monk in the abbey. From this monk he received the firſt rudiments of his education, and was ſent by him to the univerſity of Oxford, where he obtained a fellowſhip in All-Souls college. Being choſen, on account of the pregnancy of his parts, to compliment king Henry VIII. on his paying a viſit to the univerſity, in 1523, he performed his taſk in ſuch a graceful manner, that Henry, charmed with his rare accompliſhments, and thinking him qualified for a higher ſtation, carried him with him to court, ſent him over to Paris to proſecute his ſtudies, employed him afterwards in divers embaſſies, and appointed him one of his privy-counſellors. He continued to fill ſeveral honourable offices during the three following reigns, being ſucceſſively clerk of the council, ſecretary for the French tongue, maſter of requeſts, embaſſador to France, treaſurer of the chamber, and chancellor of the univerſity of Oxford. He died in 1566, and was buried in St. Paul's cathedral.

At STEVENTON, three miles ſouth of Abingdon, was an alien priory, dependant upon the abbey of Beck, in Normandy.

It will be neceſſary now to ſtray away, for the entertainment of our company, ſomewhat more than five miles to the eaſt of our road, to

WALLINGFORD, ſeated on the river Thames, over which is a handſome ſtone-bridge, ſuppoſed by ſome antiquarians, to have been the chief city of the Attrebatii, and that called by Antoninus Calleva, though ſome think Calleva was Farnham. It is alſo ſaid to have been the royal ſeat of Comius, a king of the Attrebatii. It was, undoubtedly, a place of great conſequence in the time

time of the Romans, Saxons and Danes; but Dr. Gale will not allow this claim of antiquity, as there were no Roman Remains at Wallingford; yet conſidering its having been ſurrounded by a wall a mile and an half in circumference, with a ſtrong caſtle, as Leland affirms, now demoliſhed, its antiquity cannot be well diſputed.

In the year 1006, Wallingford was totally deſtroyed by the Danes; and yet in the reign of Edward the Confeſſor, it was accounted a borough, containing 276 houſes, eight of which were deſtroyed to build the caſtle. After the death of Harold, William the Conqueror, came with an army to this city; for ſo it was then ſtiled, to receive the ſubmiſſion of Stigand, archbiſhop of Canterbury, with that of other great men. It held out for the empreſs Matilda and her ſon Henry, againſt king Stephen, who in the year 1152, cloſely beſieged the place. Henry, ſoon after, coming into England, marched to relieve it; but finding it was dangerous to attack the beſiegers in their intrenchments, blocked up all the avenues by which they were ſupplied with proviſions. Stephen advanced to the relief of his beſieging army, found means to reduce Henry to the ſame ſtraits, and a battle would have been the inevitable conſequence, had not matters been compromiſed, in a conference of the two princes on the oppoſite banks of the Thames, wherein it was agreed Stephen ſhould enjoy the crown during his life, and that Henry ſhould ſucceed him.

Soon after Henry II. acceded to the throne, and Brian Fitzcount and Maud his wife had entered into religious vows, he ſeized on the honour of Wallingford, which Richard I. afterwards beſtowed on his brother John, before his coronation. In the year 1257, earl Richard was

crown-

crowned king of the Romans, repaired the caſtle, and kept his wedding therein, entertaining the king his brother, the queen, and the nobility, but dying in 56 Hen. III. the borough devolved on his ſon Edmund, and with it the advowſons of 14 churches, and in Leland's time there were perſons alive, who remembered the places where they ſtood, and alſo where the church-yards were. Edmund, in the 10th of Edward I. erected a collegiate church in the caſtle, dedicated to the honour of St. Nicholas, endowing it with lands and revenues, for the maintenance of a dean, ſix prebends, ſix clerks, and four choiriſts. Upon his death his honours and lands fell to king Edward, whom he had declared his heir. Edward II. in the firſt year of his reign, granted them to Piers Gaveſton, whom he had created earl of Cornwall; but he loſing his head five years after, his eſtates reverted to the crown. Edward afterwards gave them to Hugh Deſpenſer, who before long underwent decapitation alſo. The declenſion of the town was partly owing to a great plague in the reign of Edward III, and partly to the building of Abingdon bridge. The dukedom of Cornwall, then, remained veſted in the royal family, the king's eldeſt ſon being deemed duke of Cornwall by birth. Wallingford was one of the manors granted to ſupport the dignity, and ſo continued till the reign of Henry VIII. when cardinal Wolſey, having built a college at Oxford, it was with the caſtle granted thereto. However the grant ſeemed to be in part reverſed, for the honour of Wallingford was ſeparated from the dutchy of Cornwall, and annexed to the manor of Ewelme, in Oxfordſhire. It was given by James I. to his queen, and afterwards to his ſon prince Charles; but the caſtle, in queen Elizabeth's reign, and ever ſince, has be-

belonged to Chriſt-church college, Oxford, tho' now entirely ruined. Leland informs us it had three large and deep ditches, with towers and a dungeon, beſides the collegiate chapel. In Camden's time this caſtle was a magnificent ſtructure, and uſed as a retreat for the ſcholars of Chriſt-church. It was double walled and ditched: in the middle was a tower raiſed upon a very high mount, in the ſteep aſcent to which, by ſtairs, there was a well of a ſurprizing depth.

There was at Wallingford, a convent of black monks, ſubordinate to the abbey of St. Alban's to whom the church of the holy Trinity was given, together with the collegiate church in the caſtle, by Galfridus Camerarius: alſo a ſmall ſociety of religious, ſtiled the maſter, brethren and ſiſters of the hoſpital of St. John the Baptiſt, inſtituted before the reign of Edward I. and ſtood without the ſouth gate of the town. Wallingford gave the title of viſcount to William Knolles, ſo created by James I. and afterwards earl of Banbury, by king Charles I. which latter honour was claimed ſome years ago by a deſcendant, but was not allowed by the houſe of lords.

The rents and profits of the manor, with the markets and fairs, are now by virtue of a leaſe from the crown, veſted in the corporation, which, by the charter of James I. conſiſts of a mayor, ſix aldermen (who are juſtices of the peace within the borough) a town clerk, two bailiffs, a chamberlain, and 18 burgeſſes. It is, at preſent, a very handſome town, with two principal ſtreets, in one of which a market is kept, and there is a convenient and elegant market-houſe, and well built town-hall, where, it being a peculiar juriſdiction, the ſeſſions are held. St. Mary's is the only church remaining; two others being de-

deſtroyed in the grand rebellion. There are alſo the ruins of two or three more.

Wallingford, like Reading, has ſent members to parliament from the earlieſt times; they are choſen by the inhabitants paying ſcot and lot, and not receiving alms, and the mayor is the returning officer.

The two markets are held on Tueſdays and Fridays, but the laſt is moſt conſiderable; and the four fairs, on Tueſday before Eaſter, for toys and pleaſure, June 24, for horſes; Sept. 19, for hiring ſervants (which is the principal fair) and Dec. 17, for fat hogs. Wallingford is 46 miles, W. by N. from London.

Within a mile of this town is a farm called Choſeley, thought to be the largeſt in England, the lands, which lye all together, being let for 1000l. per annum, and there is one barn, the roof of which is above an hundred yards long. Here was a monaſtery founded about the year 980 by king Ethelred; but it was deſtroyed in the year 1006.

On SINNODUN HILL, on the banks of the Thames, there was once a Roman fort, ſuppoſed, by Leland, to have been ruined by the Danes: the hill is ſtill ſurrounded by a deep ditch, and when the land is ploughed Roman coins are turned up. At Brightwel, near this hill, was a caſtle, which Henry II. took by ſtorm, a ſhort time before he concluded a peace with king Stephen.

At LONG CROMARSH, is a fair held on Auguſt 2, for cheeſe and horſes.

North and South MORETON, two villages near Wallingford, are noted for nothing but giving name to a hundred.

At EAST HAGBURN, three miles weſt of the ſame town, a fair is annually held, on the Thurſ-

day

day before St. Michael, O. S. or Oct. 10, for toys and recreation.

ASTON, is a village five miles S. W. of Wallingford, by ſome thought to be the place where a battle was fought between the Saxons and Danes, in the year 871, wherein the Danes were vanquiſhed, about four days after the victory obtained near Reading.

STREATLEY, is a village ſix miles ſouth of Wallingford, ſo denominated from being ſituated on a Roman highway, near Ickenild Street, which here enters Berkſhire, and runs acroſs the downs, as has been already taken notice of. Returning to our road, the next place of any account is

EAST-ILSLEY, or Market Ilſley, or Hildeſley, a town about nine miles from Abingdon, ſeated in a pleaſant valley between two hills, among fertile corn fields, and excellent ſheep-downs, with a good market, on Wedneſdays, remarkable for being the greateſt for ſheep, in the kingdom, and a fair on Auguſt 6, for ſheep and lambs. The rectory, which is in the gift of the canons of Windſor, is worth 300l. per ann.

At a ſmall diſtance from Eaſt-Ilſley, is the village of Compton, of no note but for giving name to an hundred.

One mile and an half N. of Eaſt-Ilſley, is Kates-gore, where the late duke of Cumberland built fine ſtables for keeping his running-horſes, and a more proper place could not be found for that purpoſe, on account of the ſpacious downs by which it is ſurrounded and which ſerved for breathing, exerciſing, and training of horſes.

ALDWORTH, or ALDER, as the common people ſtile it, between three and four miles S. E. of Eaſt-Ilſley, is remarkable for being the place where the caſtle belonging to the De la Beches ſtood,

stood, which family became extinct, so long ago as the reign of Edward III. Their mansion-house was situated on a neighbouring hill, and there is still a farm there called Beche farm. In the church are nine antique monuments, with the figures of the persons they were designed to commemorate, cut in stone and lying upon them. Five of them are supposed, from being dress'd in armour, and lying with one leg across the other, to have been knights Templars. Others are so broken and mutilated that it cannot be discovered whether or no they were of the same order. They are beyond the ordinary human stature, and therefore are looked upon by the common people, as memorials of a race of giants. Doubtless these monuments were erected to the memory of some of the De la Beches. They must have been buried, before the year 1307, in the beginning of the reign of Edward II. because in that year the possessions of the knights Templars in England, were seized by that king, and five years after the order was totally suppressed all over Europe. In the church-yard, close to the church, is another monument, but sunk so low in the ground, as prevents a discovery whether it be one of the same order. There is a yew-tree in this church-yard, worth the notice of the traveller: the trunk or stem, about four or five feet from the ground, where it is largest, measures 27 feet round; from that part it runs tapering, and seems to rise to the height of about 25 feet, the branches spreading from the trunk, seven or eight yards every way. The age of this venerable yew is not to be determined; for the inhabitants have not even a traditionary knowledge of it.

Donnington-Castle, on the the river Lamborn, about a mile to the N. N. W. of Newbury,

ry, is said to have been built by Sir Richard de Atterbury, knt. in the reign of Richard II. It is chiefly memorable for the residence of Geoffrey Chaucer, the father of the English poets, for being the seat of the De la Poles, and afterwards of Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk. Henry VIII. erected it into an honour, and in the reign of James I. the family of Parken were in possession of it, and with them it now remains. It is situated on the brow of an hill, and has a beautifully extended prospect. Its present state will be best known by the annexed plate. In the late civil war Col. Bois, with a handful of men, held it out in a brave and resolute manner, and successfully defended it against several vigorous attacks of the parliament forces. The oak under which the famous Chaucer is said to have composed several of his poems was standing near the castle, not many years since. At Donnington, near the castle, the same Sir Richard de Atterbury founded a priory of the order of the Holy-Trinity, valued, at the dissolution, at 19l. 13s. 10d. Below the castle he also founded an hospital now called *God's-house*, for a master and 12 poor men, who have each 6l. 13s. 4d. per ann. and every seventh year, when the lease is renewed, almost double that sum, also the endowment of the said benevolent gentleman.

NEWBURY, is seated in a fertile plain, upon the river Kennet, and is a great thoroughfare. It owes its increase of buildings and inhabitants to the clothing manufacture, which formerly was so flourishing, that John Winschomb, commonly called *Jack of Newbury*, was, in the reign of Henry VIII. the greatest clothier in England. He kept 100 looms at work in his house, which was to be seen a century ago, but is now divided into several tenements. He built the church, which

Vol. I Page 94.

North East View of Donnington Castle in the County of Berks.

horſe, continued on the field, near Shaw. The horſe were commanded by Sir William Waller, and Sir William Balfour, and the foot by ſerjeant-major-general Skippon. The battle laſted from three or four a clock in the afternoon, 'till night, with various ſucceſs; but, at length, the the king's forces were beat from their trenches, and afterwards from their ordnance, with the loſs of 3000 men, and the enemy loſt 2500. The king's army conſiſted of 8000 foot and 500 horſe, and that of the parliament of 16000, horſe and foot.

Newbury has now loſt moſt of its clothing trade; the ſtreets are ſpacious, particularly the market-place, where there is an old market-houſe, built of timber, lath and plaiſter, and in indifferent repair, under which the fleſh-market is held. Near it is a noble town-hall, of brick-work, in arches, and very handſomely faſhed, and here the buſineſs of the corporation is tranſacted. The church, town-hall and market-houſe ſtand near each other, in the middle of the town. A report was induſtriouſly ſpread through many parts of the kingdom, that the tower of the church, which ſtands on the banks of the river, ſunk two feet perpendicular, ſoon after the great floods, in the beginning of the year 1764; but by an enquiry made on the ſpot, it appeared to be falſe.

Newbury was incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and is governed by a mayor, aldermen and burgeſſes. It has a conſiderable market, for corn, on Thurſdays, and four fairs; on Holy Thurſday, for horſes and cattle; on July 5, for horſes, cows and hogs; on September 3, for cheeſe and horſes, and for the ſame on October 28.

There

There is a charity-ſchool in this town, for 40 boys, endowed with 40l. per ann. beſides 25l. yearly, ſettled upon it by a private gentleman: alſo an alms-houſe, called Jemmet's alms-houſe, ſaid to have been firſt encouraged by king John, for ſix poor men and as many women, who are allowed 21 pence per week each; 4s. on the fair day, 13s. 4d. at Chriſtmas, and an hundred faggots of wood yearly, with a new coat or gown every two years. It is a decent old building, oppoſite to St. Bartholomew's hoſpital, which has lately been repaired. At the ſouthern extremity of the town, is an old chapel, now converted into a dwelling-houſe: the burying ground adjoining lies waſte, where, as an old inhabitant of the town informed one of the editors of this work, a may-pole, was many years ago erected, whereby a conſiderable quantity of human bones were thrown up.

Newbury gives the title of baron to the duke of Cleveland, and is 56 miles weſt of London. At Sidmonton, near this town are the remains of an old Roman camp; and at the neighbouring ſand-pits ſeveral perſons ſuffered for their religion in the reign of queen Mary.

There is a ſtratum of peat, on each ſide the Kennet, near Newbury, which is from about a quarter, to half a mile wide, and many miles in length. Peat is a compoſition of the roots, leaves and branches of trees, together with graſs, ſtraw, plants and weeds, which, by lying long in water, are formed into a maſs, ſo ſoft as to be cut through with a ſpade. It is, in colour, of a blackiſh brown, and is uſed for fuel; the depth, below the ſurface at which it is found, in this place, is from one to eight feet. Great numbers of entire oaks, alders, willows and firs, which appear to be torn up by the roots, are found ly-

ing irregularly in the true peat. Horſes and beavers heads, deer's bones, antelopes horns, and the heads and tuſks of boars, have alſo been frequently diſcovered therein. Some years ſince, an urn was found in the peat-pit, in Speen-moor, of a light brown colour, large enough to hold a gallon; but as it was broken to pieces by the peat-diggers, it could not be critically examined. Two flint ſtones were taken out of this peat, which bore evident marks of human invention; for they are large, ground to an edge, in the form of an axe, and ſo perfect and ſharp, that wood might be cut with them. If we miſtake not, theſe ſtones are now in the cuſtody of Mr. Sare, an ingenious antiquarian, at Aldermarſton, in this county. About half a mile, N. N. E. of Newbury, is a pleaſant ſeat, which belonged to the Dolemans; it is near the Bath road, and has been honoured by the preſence of ſeveral of our monarchs when travelling towards the weſt.

At BRIMPTON, about five miles ſouth of Newbury, there was, in the time of Henry III. an houſe of knights hoſpitallers of St. John of Jeruſalem.

Here our road enters Hampſhire, but we ſhall entertain ourſelves with ſome other places in the neighbourhood of Newbury.

ENBORN, is about two miles from that town, noted for a very remarkable cuſtom of the manor. The widow of a copyholder, is, on his death, intitled to have free bench, in all his copyhold lands, *dum ſola & caſta fuerit*; but if ſhe marries, or is incontinent, ſhe forfeits her eſtate; nevertheleſs, if, the next court that is held for the manor, ſhe comes in riding backward, on a black ram, with the tail in her hand, and repeats

peats the following words, the ſteward muſt re-admit her to her free bench:

Here I am, riding on a black ram,
Like a whore as I am;
And for my crinkum crankum,
Have loſt my binkum bankum;
And for my tail's game
Am brought to this worldly ſhame;
Wherefore, pray Mr. Steward, give me my lands again!

HAMSTED-MARSHAL, is about two miles weſt of Enborn, ſo called, becauſe it formerly belonged to the earl-marſhal of England, it is now principally remarkable for a fine ſeat of lord Craven's, ſeated on an eminence, which has an extenſive proſpect.

KENTBURY, is a village, about two miles and an half N. W. of Hamſted-Marſhal. It is a large pariſh, and gives name to an hundred.

We will now, with our traveller's leave, carry him through the road from Abingdon into Glouceſterſhire; but firſt let us not forget a place, or two to the north of that town, which lie out the courſe of any high road.

BASIL'S-LEIGH, is four miles north of Abingdon, and received its appellation from the ancient family of the Baſils, who claimed it on the marriage of one of their family to the heireſs of a knight, named de Leigh, and flouriſhed here for many ages. The male line, however, failing in the fixteenth century, it went by the marriage of the heireſs to the Fettiplaces, a very honourable name in this county.

A mile ſouth of Baſils-Leigh, is Sandford, or Sandleford, where a priory was founded by Gaſfred, earl of Perch, and Maud his wife, in the

reign of king John, for Auguſtine monks, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. John the Baptiſt; but being deſerted by thoſe monks, in the year 1480, it was annexed to the collegiate church of Windſor.

WHITEHAM, or WITHAM, is a village ſeated on the banks of the Iſis, about three miles north of Baſil's-Leigh, and two miles weſt of Oxford: there are at this place conſiderable remains of an ancient religious houſe, called Godſtowe nunnery, two ſides of the tower of which were ſtanding till within theſe few years, when they were blown down by a high wind. In this nunnery the celebrated Roſamond, daughter of William lord Clifford, and paramour of Henry II. ſecluded herſelf, upon that monarch's marriage with queen Eleanor; and in the chapel, which is yet entire, there is a ſtone-coffin, wherein ſhe was interred, and the following monkiſh inſcription ſtill very legible, viz.

Hic jacet in Tumba, Roſa Mundi, non Roſa Munda,
Non redolet, ſed olet, quæ redolere ſolet.

It now is part of the eſtates of the earl of Abingdon, who has a ſeat, with a park, on the weſt ſide of the church.

NEWBRIDGE, is about ſix miles from Abingdon, to the N. W. ſeated upon the river Thames, where two annual fairs are held, on March 31, and Sept. 28, for cheeſe and horſes.

At FYFIELD, or FYFEHYDE, was an hoſpital dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, founded by the executors of John Golafre, before 20 Henry VI. The manor and eſtate was purchaſed by Sir Thomas White, Lord Mayor of London, who ſettled it upon St. John's college Oxford, of which he was the founder; but previouſly granted a leaſe

leaſe of it to his brother, in whoſe family it has ever ſince continued; though the college are lords of the manor. We will now addreſs ourſelves to the road we propoſe to travel, on which the firſt place of any account we meet with, is

GARFORD, about five miles weſt of Abingdon, which is moſt pleaſingly ſituated on the north bank of the river Ocke, and belongs to the pariſh of Marcham: at this place a battle was fought between the Britons and the Romans; but it is not to be now diſcovered when that event happened: however, ſuch a battle, no doubt, was fought, becauſe towards the latter end of the laſt century, at a ſtone-pit, near the village, were found fragments of arms and armour, ſkeletons of men, ſeveral pieces of Roman coin, and a quantity of glaſs rings, or adder-heads, of the ſame kind with thoſe mentioned in the deſcription of Angleſea: likewiſe ſome amber-beads; and ſuch things have been frequently dug up ſince.

Near four miles further, and about a mile ſouth of the road lies Puſey, which, for many ages, has been poſſeſſed by the family of that name, who hold the manor, by a horn, ſaid to be given to their anceſtors by Canute the Dane.

One mile and a half eaſt of this place, there is a roundiſh rampire with double ditches, called Cherbury caſtle, or Cherbury camp, and is ſuppoſed to have been conſtructed by Canute, beforementioned, much reſembling Badbury caſtle in Dorſetſhire; but the extent is not ſo great. About a mile from hence, are the walls of another caſtle, ſo much demoliſhed, that a part of it has been converted to an orchard. In the midway, between theſe two caſtles, is a round hill, called Windmill-hill, whereon there is ſuppoſed to have been a watch-tower.

WADLEY, is a village a mile and a half eaſt, north eaſt of Farringdon, where there is a fair annually on the 5th of April, for horſes and cows.

FARRINGDON, or FARRENDON, is ſeated at the bottom of an hill, where Robert, earl of Glouceſter, erected a caſtle in the reign of king Stephen, which, after a ſtout reſiſtance, was taken by that prince and demoliſhed. Upon the ſcite thereof, Stephen founded a priory for Ciſtercian monks, about 1142, which is likewiſe demoliſhed. The church, which ſtands on the hill, is a large, handſome ſtructure, and the principal ornament of the town. There is a market on Tueſdays, and three fairs, on Feb. 2. Whit Tueſday, and Oct. 18, for horſes, fat cattle and pigs. Farringdon is 68 miles, W. by N. from London.

Two miles and an half north of Farringdon, is Radcot-bridge, where a battle was fought, in the year 1387, between Thomas duke of Glouceſter, the earls of Derby, Arundel, Nottingham and Warwick, and Robert de Vere, marquis of Dublin, wherein the latter was routed and forced to ſwim over the river Iſis to make his eſcape; Sir Thomas Molineux, and numbers of ſoldiers on de Vere's ſide being ſlain in the conflict. Hereabout a great cauſeway was begun, which it is pretended led to Friar Bacon's ſtudy, in Oxford; ſome have imagined it to be a work of the Romans; but it was more probably the work of Robert D'Oyley, in the time of William the Conqueror.

Having thus accompanied our traveller thro' all the conſiderable roads in this county, and viſited their environs, it remains to conduct him to the ſouth-eaſt corner, where though there are no great roads to accommodate him, he will meet with

with gratifications of his curiosity sufficient to make the tour perfectly agreeable.

OCKINGHAM, or WOKINGHAM, is a market town, in Windsor forest, which consists of several streets, with a market-house, an handsome structure, in the centre. It was noted formerly for its manufacture of silk stockings, and cloth. There is also a free-school, and it is incorporated, and governed by an alderman, a recorder, and capital burgesses; the market, which is well furnished with provisions, is on Tuesdays, and the three fairs are held annually, on the Thursday before Shrove-tide, June 11, and Nov. 2, all for horses and cattle. This town gave the title of baron, to prince George of Denmark, spouse of queen Anne. It is distant from London 33 miles west, and about seven east south east of Reading.

Dr. Thomas Goodwin, bishop of Bath and Wells, author of the Jewish and Roman antiquities, first drew his breath at Ockingham, and became an excellent preacher in the reign of queen Elizabeth. He was educated at Magdalen college, Oxford, and during queen Mary's reign, supported his family by the practice of physic, in which faculty he had taken the degree of batchelor. He was successively chaplain to the bishop of London, dean of Christ-church, Oxford, prebendary of Milton Ecclesia, and of Leighton-Beaudesert, and at length was promoted to the bishoprick, abovementioned. He died on November 9, 1590, in the 73d year of his age.

Not far from this town, on the forest, Pope the harmonious poet was born, who has celebrated the place of his nativity, in a fine descriptive poem. Molly Mog, on whom Mr. Gay made a well-known ballad, was the daughter of

a man in this town, who kept the Roſe Inn. She died in the year 1766, having outlived her charms. About three miles and an half S. E. of Ockingham, at a place called Eaſt Hamſted, is a fortification named Cæſar's camp, ſituated on the top of an hill, and conſiſting of a large ſquare, with a well in the midſt; completely ſcarped or ſloped within ſide from the ditch. Three miles and an half eaſt from the town, is Cowper's hill, celebrated in a beautiful poem, by Sir John Denham. Yew-tree corner, is about three miles S. E. of Ockingham, and is the place where the ſtag-hunters, who are ſometimes very numerous, meet to prepare for the chace.

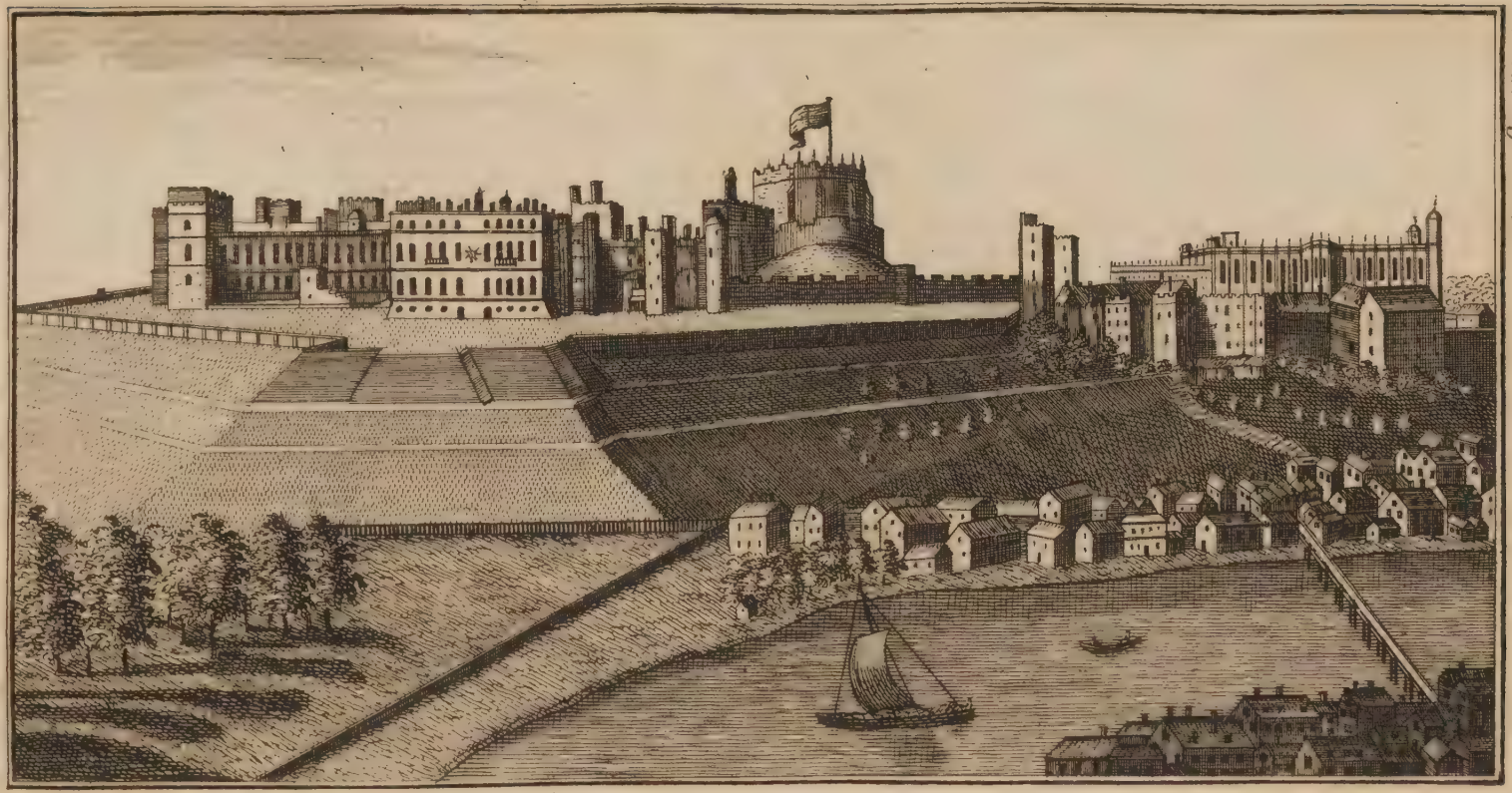
At CHAPEL GREEN, in the pariſh of Ockingham, an hoſpital was founded, in the reign of Charles I. by H. Lucas, Eſq; for 16 penſioners, who have each 10 pounds per ann. and a chaplain, who is ſtiled maſter, 50l. a year. The truſtees, are the Grocers company, of London, who elect the chaplain; and the penſioners are preſented, alternately by 16 pariſhes in Berkſhire, and the like number in Surry. This pariſh is very extenſive, being 15 miles and an half in circumference, four miles and an half in length, and three in breadth.

FINCHAMSTEAD, two miles and an half S. S. W. of Ockingham, has a fair for cattle, annually, on the 23d of April. And

At BRACKENHILL, or BRACKNELL, four miles E. N. E. from Ockingham, are three annual fairs, held on April 25, for cows and ſheep; Aug. 22, for horſes, cows, and hogs, and on Oct. 1, for ſheep and large cattle.

PAGLEY, or PURLEY, is about three miles N. W. of Reading, and came to the St. Johns by marriage of the daughter and heireſs of Sir John Inwardby. At this place was a priory founded by

The North View of Windsor Castle in the County of Berks.



Vol. I. Page 105.

by Ralph de Chadelworth, in the reign of Henry III. for Auguſtine monks, which was valued at the ſuppreſſion of monaſteries, at 71l. per ann.

HURST, is about two miles E. by N. from Ockingham, and part of the pariſh is in Wiltſhire; Sir Richard Harriſon founded an alms-houſe in this place, for 12 men and women, who have 3s. 6d. per week each, and every year a coat or gown.

WINDSOR is ſeated on the river Thames, on a riſing ground, in a ſalubrious air, and is an handſome, large, and well frequented town, conſiſting of ſeveral ſtreets round the famous caſtle, the principal of which looks towards the ſouth, and is adorned with good houſes, and a magnificent town-hall, built in the reign of Charles II. The pariſh church, though large, is but an ordinary ſtructure; however, in the tower there is a ring of eight bells. The town is incorporated, and governed by a mayor, two bailiffs, and 28 other perſons choſen from amongſt the moſt ſubſtantial inhabitants, 13 of whom are called fellows, or benchers of the Guildhall, and of theſe 10 are named the aldermen, from among whom the mayor and bailiffs are choſen. The freemen of this corporation are exempted from all tolls of bridges, markets and fairs, and ſend two repreſentatives to parliament. The market is on Saturdays, and the three fairs, on Eaſter Tueſday, and Oct. 15, for horſes and cattle, and on June 5, for the ſame, ſheep and wool. Windſor is 24 miles weſt of London.

The object of the curioſity of all travellers, is the caſtle of Windſor, which is the moſt remarkable and celebrated in the kingdom. The town in the midſt of which it raiſes its battlements, was granted by Edward the Confeſſor to his abbey of Weſtminſter, but the conqueror, de-

lighted with the ſituation, gave lands in Eſſex in exchange, and built there an hunting ſeat. Henry I. rebuilt this houſe, fortified it, and in the 10th year of his reign kept his Whitſuntide therein; ſummoning all his prelates and nobility to attend him. When Richard I. went upon his romantic expedition to the Holy-land, he put the government of the kingdom into the hands of the biſhops of Durham and Ely, the latter of whom reſided in the tower of London, and the former at Windſor, taking it to be the ſecond ſtrongeſt place in England. Queen Eleanor, conſort of Edward I. took great pleaſure in this palace; and here Edward III. ſurnamed of Windſor, was born, in the next reign. To this prince the caſtle owes its magnificence; for he enlarged and beautified it at a vaſt expence. He erected the royal palace and chapel, together with St. George's hall, the lodgings on the eaſt and ſouth ſides of the inner court, the tower in the middle, and the houſes for the dean and canons in the outer court. He likewiſe built the whole circumference of the walls, with the ſeveral towers and gates, as they ſtand at preſent. Edward IV. magnificently finiſhed the fine chapel of St. George. The ſtately ſtructure adjoining to the king's lodgings, was erected by Henry VII. and the great gate opening into the outer court, by Henry VIII. King Edward VI. and queen Mary perfected the curious fountain in the middle of the inner court, into which the water was conveyed from Blackmore park, near Wingfield. Queen Elizabeth laid out the terras-walk, at the extremity of which king Charles I. built a gate opening into the park. King Charles II. at a great expence repaired and furniſhed the palace, with arms, fine paintings, and made many other improvements. King James II. and William

III.

III. added more paintings and ornaments, principally the works of Verrio, a Neapolitan, ſo that, upon the whole, for magnificence, beauty and convenience, this caſtle may vye with any in Europe.

In this palace was an old free chapel, dedicated to St. Edward the Confeſſor, in which Henry I. placed eight ſecular prieſts, who, it appears, were maintained out of his exchequer. And when Edward II. came to the throne, there was a royal chapel in the park, for thirteen chaplains and four clerks, who were ſupported by ſalaries out of the manors of Langley and Sippenham, in Buckinghamſhire. In the 4th year of that prince's reign, they were removed to the caſtle, and four more chaplains, and two clerks added to them. In the 28th year of his reign, he refounded this chapel, and conſecrated it as a collegiate church to the honour of the Virgin Mary, St. George, and St. Edward, the king and confeſſor. This eſtabliſhment conſiſted of a cuſtos, ſince called a dean, twelve great canons or prebendaries, thirteen vicars, or minor canons, four clerks, ſix choriſters, twenty-four poor knights, and other officers. This chapel was particularly excepted out of the act for ſuppreſſing the colleges, and ſtill ſubſiſts in a flouriſhing ſtate.

The chapel, as it now ſtands, was erected by Edward III. and dedicated to St. George, and finiſhed by Edward IV. as obſerved above, and is, perhaps, one of the moſt beautiful and magnificent Gothick ſtructures in the world, the inſide being extremely curious, and the work without ſtriking every beholder with an air of inexpreſſible majeſty and grandeur. The coats of arms of the firſt ſovereign, and 25 knights companions of the garter, are painted on the roof of the chapel, and the various imagery ſcattered

every

every where around, are moſt wonderfully finiſhed, nor has length of time taken from them their delicacy and proportion.

On the ſouth ſide of the choir, is an oratory, where prayers are read twice a day, and at the weſt end are the choriſters houſes, each having a ſmall garden. At the bottom of the ſquare is the library, and the ſquare itſelf is ſurrounded by an high wall, ſurmounted by towers, as the other is by the terrace. The entrance of each is over a ſtone bridge, with a gate, the uppermoſt of which fronts the royal apartments, and the other the chapel.

The college was refounded by Edward III. for a cuſtos, 12 ſecular canons, 13 prieſts, 4 clerks, 6 choriſters, and 26 alms knights; but in the reign of Edward IV. they were incorporated under the denomination of the dean and canons of the free chapel of St. George, within the caſtle of Windſor.

The alms knights, now called the poor knights of Windſor, were at firſt, as before obſerved, only 24, but upon the inſtitution of the order of the garter, they were made equal in number to the knights; they are, at preſent, reduced to eighteen, who have each a yearly allowance, and a little cell round the ſquare where the church ſtands; they wear a caſſock of red cloth, with a purple mantle, and St. George's croſs on the left ſhoulder. Their ſtalls are in the middle of the choir, immediately below thoſe of the knights of the garter; and it is their duty to go twice a day, in their robes, to church, to pray for the ſovereign and the knights of that order.

Of this moſt noble order, have been eight emperors of Germany, five kings of Denmark, three kings of Sweden, three kings of Spain, five kings of Portugal, two kings of Naples, one king of Arra-

Arragon, ſeveral princes of Germany, and many ſovereign dukes and other great men in all parts of Europe.

The habit and enſigns of the order, are a garter, mantle, ſurcoat, or kirtle, hood, cap, George and collar, to which an hat was added by king Charles I. The officers are the prelate, who is biſhop of Wincheſter; the chancellor, who is biſhop of Saliſbury; the regiſter, who is dean of Windſor; garter king of arms, and the black rod.

A great many noble families of England have their eſcutcheons in this chapel, where the remains of the kings, Henry VI, Edward IV, Henry VIII, and his queen Jane Seymour, and Charles I, were depoſited.

The caſtle conſiſts of two ſquare courts, with a tower between them, called the three wards. The inner ſquare is the higher ward, the tower the middle ward, and the outer ſquare the lower ward. In the middle of the inner ſquare, is an equeſtrian ſtatue of king Charles II, erected in 1680, by Tobias Reſtal, a grateful domeſtic ſervant, who had long enjoyed that prince's favour. The terrace walk on the outſide is faced with freeſtone, which ſome affirm is the fineſt in the world. From this terrace the proſpect is perfectly inchanting, and pictureſque, all over the neighbouring country. If the weather would permit, here queen Elizabeth uſually walked for an hour before dinner. On the park-ſide of this ſquare, towards the north, are the royal apartments, and thoſe of the officers of the houſhold; the reſt of the ſquare is taken up by the Lodgings of the officers of the crown. You enter the royal apartments thro' a paſſage ſupported by pillars, the niches being filled with antique buſtoes, particularly that of the Roman ſlave picking a thorn out of his foot.

From

From hence there is a flight of ſtairs leading to the royal apartments on the left; and to the right, is a paſſage through a ſmall court, up another ſtair-caſe to St. George's hall. The domes of theſe ſtair-caſes are elegantly painted, and from each of them is a paſſage of communication to the guard rooms, which are curiouſly ornamented with various ſpecies of arms, artfully diſpoſed, as at St. James's palace. In the queen's guard-room, Britannia, in the perſon of queen Catherine of Portugal, is painted on the ceiling, ſeated on a globe, the four quarters of the world making offerings to her: over the chimney-piece is the picture of prince George of Denmark, on horſeback, by Dahl; and over that, in the king's guard-room, is a fine painting, by Vandyke, of Charles XIIth of Sweden, on horſeback, and the dome and ceiling are ornamented with fables from the heathen mythology. Over the fire-place, in the preſence chamber, is a painting of Judith and Holofernes, accounted a very maſterly performance, and over the door is a fine Magdalen, by Sir Peter Lely. There are ſeveral other Judiths, and another Magdalen, and in the gallery is the daughter nouriſhing her confined father at her breaſt. Leda and the ſwan, on the ceiling of the king's cloſet, is admirably performed and much admired. In the dining-room are all ſorts of fiſh, poultry and fruit, and in the gallery, the portrait of an old woman, reading by candle-light, which are much praiſed by connoiſſeurs. There are many other fine paintings in the royal apartments, particularly in the queen's audience-chamber, Judith and Holofernes, by Guido Rheni; St. Stephen ſtoned, by Rotterman, and a Magdalen, by moonlight, by Carraccio. On the ceiling of the ball-room, is repreſented in the characters of Perſeus and Andromeda, Europe delivered by king

king Charles II. Over the head of Europe is inſcribed *Europa Liberata*; here are alſo paintings of the Roman charity after Tintoret; Duns Scotus, by Spanniolet; a Madona, by Titian; Fame, by Palmegiani; Arts and Sciences, by the ſame hand; Pan and Syrinx, by Stanick. On the ceiling of the queen's drawing-room, is the aſſembly of the gods and goddeſſes, finely intermixed with flowers, cupids, &c. and heightened with gold. The paintings in this room are, Lot and his daughters, after Angelo; lady Digby, by Vandike; a ſleeping Venus, by Pouſſin; a family, in the characters of Marc Anthony and Cleopatra, by de Bray; a Dutch family after Titian; and a flower-piece, by Vereliſt. In the queen's bed chamber are, the Holy-family, by Raphael; Herod's cruelty, by Julio Romano; and Judith and Holofernes, by Guido. The room of beauties, contains the portraits of fourteen of the moſt celebrated beauties in the reign of Charles II, viz. Mrs. Knott, Mrs. Dawſon, lady Sunderland, lady Rocheſter, lady Denham and her ſiſter, Mrs. Middleton, lady Byrom, ducheſs of Richmond, counteſs of Northumberland, lady Gramont, ducheſs of Cleveland, ducheſs of Somerſet, and lady Oſſory, all originals of Sir Peter Lely. The other royal apartments are adorned with various labours of Lely, Vandike, Vanſomer, Baſſan, Skalkin, Tintoret, Raphael, Kneller, Paul Veroneſe, Dahl, Holbein, Correggio, Walterman, Angelo, Julio Romano, Titian, Carraccio, Carlo Dolce, Hanneman, Jenario, Verrio, Sneider, Zeyman, and others. The tapeſtry, hangings, and carvings, are exceedingly grand and beautiful throughout, and well deſerve the particular attention of the curious viſitor, though the enumeration thereof would be too diffuſive for this work.

St.

St. George's hall is eſteemed, by many perſons, the fineſt room in the world, and was deſigned, from the firſt inſtitution, for the entertainment of the knights of the garter, at their inſtallations. On the north ſide is a painting of Edward III. on his throne, as large as life, receiving his ſon, the renowned Black prince, returning in triumph from battle, attended by many illuſtrious priſoners. The ceiling is adorned with a fine emblematical figure of king William III. trampling on a lion's head. In the front, which is the weſt end of the hall, the ſame monarch is repreſented on a throne, magnificently habited in the order of the garter; his cap on his right hand, and the crown on his left, which is eſteemed one of the beſt performances of Sir Godfrey Kneller. Going up to this picture, are five ſteps of real marble, and five more ſo admirably repreſented on the canvas, that a common obſerver would think them real. Over the throne, is St. George on horſeback, and the other parts of this magnificent hall, are principally decorated with emblematical paintings and ornaments of architecture, particularly between the ſouth windows.

From the hall, is a paſſage to the chapel-royal, which is paved with marble, and extremely well painted with ſcripture hiſtories. The altar-piece repreſents the laſt ſupper, and on the ceiling is Chriſt's aſcenſion. The carved works in this chapel are amazingly beautiful, and it may be ſaid to be the neateſt and fineſt chapel in the kingdom.

In deſcending from the inner to the outer court, we paſs the round tower, wherein the governor or conſtable of the caſtle reſides, which is built in the form of an amphitheatre, very lofty the apartments being ſuited to his dignity.

To

To this tower you aſcend, by 147 ſteps of purbeck ſtone, which bring you into a court-yard, in the middle of which is a large ciſtern, firſt placed there by king Charles II. to receive the drains from the roof of the out-offices, and round the court are hung a number of buckets, to be ready in caſe of fire. The guard-room is furniſhed with all ſorts of arms, and the other apartments of this tower, are the great dining-room, the withdrawing-room with the cloſet adjoining, the bed-chamber, the little dining-room, from the window of which, you have a clear view of Wincheſter tower, and to the weſt of the river Thames: laſtly, the dreſſing-room. On the curtain round this tower are 17 port-holes, with cannon, for the defence of the caſtle. On the weſt part of the leads, a ſtandard is erected, as often as the court or the conſtable reſide in the caſtle. From theſe leads ſuch proſpects preſent themſelves as are paſt deſcription charming, on the N. E. Harrow on the hill, E. by N. Hampſtead and Highgate; eaſt, St. Paul's Cathedral, Shooter's and Dulwich hills; S. E. Madam-ſcot hills, near Sevenoaks, in Kent; ſouth, Box hill in Surry, and Hind-head in Suſſex; weſt, Lord Cadogan's fine ſeat at Caſſorn, in Berkſhire; N. W. Nettlebed windmill, Pen-wood and Penhills, with Eaton college and the caſtle of Wincheſter.

On the north ſide of the lower court, which is much longer than the upper, and full as broad, is the chapel of the order of the garter, which we have already deſcribed.

Between the caſtle and the little palace, in which queen Anne took ſuch delight, is the entrance into the little park, which though ſo called, is not leſs than three miles in circumference. The walks are finely ſhaded, it is well ſtocked with

with deer, and has an elegant lodge for the keeper. From hence a paſſage carries us into the great park, which is upwards of fourteen miles in circumference, and is replete with all manner of game. The late duke of Cumberland's lodge, called Cranbourn lodge, ſtands in the midſt of this park, being moſt delightfully ſeated on an hill, from whence the proſpect chears the admiring ſight. It was built by the late earl of Ranelagh, and the incloſed ground about it is denominated Cranbourn park; and Cranbourn wood, is about a mile from it, weſt. In this is a pond, the ſource of *Virginia water*, which after many turnings, reaches Chertſey, in Surry, and diſcharges itſelf into the Thames, at the bottom of the earl of Portmore's park, about a quarter of a mile weſt of Weybridge park. This lodge was finely improved and adorned by his late royal highneſs, who laid out large ſums for that purpoſe, which gave bread to ſome hundred poor families. He had alſo a managerie, in which many uncommon animals were kept.

On Saturday, June 16, 1764, ſuch a terrible ſtorm of hail aroſe, that the ſtones broke all the windows of this lodge, ſeveral of them being above ſix inches in diameter: the damage done, amounted to above one hundred and fifty pounds.

On the ſouth ſide of the great park, is Shrub's hill, on the ſummit of which the duke of Cumberland built a temple, in a very elegant ſtile; but, indeed, the whole park is ſo bountifully adorned by nature, that works of art ſuffer by a compariſon: yet the Chineſe bridge, thrown over a piece of water, and built of timbers ten feet long, diverging both ways, with ſtone abuttments, is, perhaps, as curious a piece of workmanſhip as any in Europe.

At

At a ſmall diſtance from Windſor, is St. Leonard's hill, where many ancient coins, inſtruments of war, and an antique lamp have been dug up; and about two miles S. E. of Windſor, is old Windſor, ſeated on the banks of the Thames; at which place, or near it, Mr. Horſely conjectures, was the Pontes of the Romans. It is at preſent only a ſmall village, conſiſting of a few ſtraggling houſes.

At BROOM HALL, on the ſouth ſide of Windſor great park, was a ſmall Benedictine nunnery, founded before the reign of king John, and dedicated to St. Margaret; but being deſerted by the abbeſs and nuns, it was granted by the crown, to St. John's college, Cambridge.

We meet with two mineral ſprings in Berkſhire, at Sunning-hill and Comner. Sunning-hill is pleaſantly ſituated in Windſor foreſt, about five miles from Windſor, and 33 from London, the waters are Chalybeate, and of the ſame properties as thoſe at Tunbridge, to which we refer the reader in our account of Kent.

COMNER, or CUMNER, is three miles weſt of Oxford. The water is always of a whitiſh colour, eſpecially in the ſummer ſeaſon, when the well is low, the reaſon of which appearance is ſaid to be owing to its proceeding from lime-ſtone. Oil of tartar being dropped therein, cauſes it to let fall a white ſediment; and ſpirits of hartſhorn turn it to a pearl colour, but with the ſolution of ſilver, it changes to a purpliſh pearl colour, and with ſyrup of violets, green. A gallon of this water will yield 296 grains of ſediment, whereof 76 grains are lime-ſtone, and the remainder a calcarious nitre. The ſediment is dark brown, with a ſaltiſh and very bitter taſte, will ferment with vinegar, as well as with oil of vitriol, and will alſo turn green immediately, with ſyrup of violets. The ſalt itſelf

ſelf is of a yellowiſh brown colour, and has a ſaline, nauſeous, bitter taſte. It is a kind of calcarious nitre, but inclines more to an alkali, than moſt others of this claſs. The ſpring is not much frequented; but it is known, that a quart of the water will purge a robuſt country fellow.

The uncommon plants which grow naturally in this country are,

Northern ſhrubby ſweet gale, ſweet willow, Dutch myrtle, or gale. Myrica foliis lanceolatis ſubſerratis, caule fruticoſo. Lin. ſp. plant. 1024. This is the *gale frutex odoratus ſeptentrionalium.* J. B. The leaves, flowers, and ſeeds of this plant, have a ſtrong fragrant ſmell, and a bitter taſte. They are ſaid to be uſed among the common people, for deſtroying moths and cutaneous inſects, being accounted an enemy to inſects of every kind; internally, in infuſions, as a ſtomachic and vermifuge; and as a ſubſtitute to hops, for preſerving malt liquors, which they render more inebriating, and of conſequence leſs ſalubrious. This plant is often called the *myrtus brabantica*, and is to be found by old Windſor park corner.

The man orchis, orchis bulbis indiviſis nectarii labio trifolio antice bidentato, cornu longo, petalis acuminatis. Act. Upſal. 1740. This is the *orchis latifolia, hiante cucullo, major.* Tourn. *Orchis galea et alis fere cinereis.* Ray. It grows on Cawſham hills, by the Thames ſide, not far from Reading.

Solomon's ſeal, convallaria foliis alternis, floribus axillaribus. Flor. Suec. 274. This is the *polygonatum-latifolium vulgare.* C. B. It is to be met with in a field adjoining to the waſh of Newbury, and in ſeveral other parts of the country. The roots of this plant are recommended externally, as vulneraries, reſtringents and diſcutients;

ents; and internally, as incraſſants and mild corroborants. Their virtues do not appear to be very great: they have little or no ſmell; to the taſte, they diſcover a conſiderable ſweetneſs, which is followed by a very ſlight impreſſion of bitteriſhneſs and acrimony.

Narrow leaved golden lungwort, hierarchium pulmonaria dictum anguſtifolium. It is to be found in an old Roman camp at Sidmonton, near Newbury.

In the time of the Romans, this county was inhabited by the Attrebatii or Attrebates, by ſome enquirers ſuppoſed to have been a colony of the Attrebates, in Gaul. When the Romans abandoned Britain, it fell into the hands of the Weſt-Saxons, and during the heptarchy, was a part of that kingdom. It ſuffered greatly afterwards from the frequent inroads of the Danes, who, notwithſtanding they ſuffered two great defeats, in the year 871, at Inglefield and Aſhdown, as before taken notice of, afterwards gathered ſtrength and ravaged the whole county, deſtroying, in the year 1006, Wallingford and other towns, with their uſual ſavage fury.

Beſide the remarkable perſons already mentioned, we ſhall ſubjoin an account of ſome others, who were natives of, and have reflected honour on this county.

John Blagrave, an eminent mathematician of the XVIth and XVIIth centuries, was born at Bulmarſh-court, of honourable parentage, one of the repreſentatives in parliament, for the borough of Reading, having been of his family ever ſince the reign of king James I. After receiving the firſt rudiments of learning, in the ſchool at Reading, he removed to St. John's college in Oxford, where he chiefly applied himſelf to the mathematics. Soon after he retired to his patrimonial

monial ſeat, at Southcote-lodge, near Reading, where he continued to proſecute his ſtudies with equal induſtry and ſucceſs, as appears from ſeveral valuable works which he publiſhed. Nor was his charity inferior to his learning. As he never married himſelf, he left handſome legacies to all the poſterity of his three brothers. And he likewiſe eſtabliſhed an excellent foundation for the encouragement of maid-ſervants in the town of Reading. The church-warden of each of the three pariſhes, which that borough contains, chooſes a virtuous maid, who has lived five years with her maſter. Theſe three maids appear in the town-hall, on Good Friday, before the mayor and aldermen, and throw dice; and ſhe that throws moſt, has a purſe with ten pounds. "This is lucky money," ſays Aſhmole, "for I never heard of a maid who got the "ten pounds, but had ſoon after a good huſ-"band." This worthy gentleman died the 9th of Auguſt, 1611, at his houſe near Reading, and was interred near his mother, in the church of St. Lawrence, in that town.

John Fell, a learned and moſt excellent biſhop, of the XVIIth century, and ſon of Samuel Fell, dean of Chriſt-church, Oxford, was born at Longworth, the 23d of June, 1625. He received his education in the free-ſchool at Thame in Oxfordſhire, and in Chriſt-church, Oxford, where he was admitted a ſtudent in 1636. Four years after, he took the degree of batchelor of arts, and that of maſter in 1643; at which time he was in arms for king Charles I. who afterwards promoted him to the rank of enſign. Being turned out of his ſtudent's place, in 1648, by the parliamentary viſitors, he retired to a private ſtation, where he continued unmoleſted till the reſtoration. In the ſummer of 1660, he was ap-

appointed prebendary of Chicheſter, and in the month of November following, enſtalled dean of Chriſt-church. In 1666, he was elected vice-chancellor of the univerſity, and ten years after, was promoted to the ſee of Oxford. He was a generous benefactor to the college of Chriſt-church: for, beſides building and repairing many parts of that noble ſtructure, he purchaſed, with his own money, moſt of the rectories which now belong to it, and left an eſtate for the maintenance of ten or more exhibitioners for ever, who are annually choſen on the firſt of November, when a publick ſpeech is ſpoken in the refectory in commemoration of him. Though it cannot be ſuppoſed, that a man ſo active could have much leiſure for ſtudy, yet he publiſhed ſeveral works, and all of them excellent in their kind. He was never married. At length, having waſted his ſpirits, and worn out his body by too intenſe an application to his duty, he died in 1686, and was buried in the divinity-chapel, adjoining to the choir of Chriſt-church cathedral.

Edmund Dickinſon, a celebrated phyſician and chemiſt, of the XVIIth century, was born, of reputable parents, at Appleton, on the 26th of Auguſt, 1624. After learning the languages at Eaton college, he was, in 1642, admitted of Merton college, Oxford, as one of the Eaton poſt-maſters. Having there gone through his courſe of philoſophy, with univerſal applauſe, he entered, in 1649, on the phyſic line, and ſoon diſtinguiſhed himſelf ſo greatly in that noble ſcience, that he was promoted to the place of ſuperior reader of Linacre's lectures, which he filled ſeveral years. Deſirous, however, of devoting himſelf to the practical part of his profeſſion, he lived for ſome time in the city of Oxford; and

and at laſt, upon the death of the famous Dr. Willis, in 1684, he left the univerſity, and removed to London, where having had the good fortune to perform a remarkable cure upon Henry Bennet, earl of Arlington, he was, at the recommendation of that nobleman, appointed one of the phyſicians in ordinary, and phyſician of the houſhold to his majeſty, Charles II. The ſame place he enjoyed under his brother and ſucceſſor, James II. but, upon the abdication of that unfortunate prince, the doctor, who was now advanced in years, and afflicted with the ſtone, retired from practice. He was the author of ſeveral curious tracts, which are all wrote in Latin, and therefore little known to the generality of readers. He died in London in 1707, and was buried in the church of St. Martin in the Fields.

William Lloyd, a learned and pious biſhop, of the laſt and preſent century, was born at Tilehurſt, the 18th of Auguſt, 1627. He was inſtructed in the languages by his father, the Rev. Richard Lloyd, rector of Tilehurſt, and made ſo rapid a progreſs in his ſtudies, that having acquired, at eleven years of age, a competent knowledge of the Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, he was entered, in 1638, a ſtudent of Oriel college, Oxford. In 1642, he took the degree of batchelor of arts, and that of maſter, about four years afterwards. During the greateſt part of the civil wars, he acted as tutor to a gentleman's children; and though he obtained, at one time, a rectory, and was even approved by the parliamentary *Tryers*, he ſoon found it neceſſary to reſign his living. After the reſtoration he became one of the prebendaries of the collegiate church of Rippon; and riſing gradually through other eccleſiaſtical dignities, was at laſt promoted, in 1680,

1680, to the bishoprick of St. Asaph. Having concurred in the revolution, he was appointed lord almoner to king William III. and translated, in 1692, to the see of Coventry and Litchfield. He was again translated, in 1700, to the bishoprick of Worcester, and continued on the accession of her majesty queen Anne, as almoner to that princess; but having incurred the displeasure of the ministry, by opposing the election of Sir John Packington for Worcestershire, the queen was prevailed on, by an address of the house of Commons, to deprive him of that office. The remainder of his life was entirely employed in discharging the duties of his episcopal function; and these he performed with a spirit and activity, which was equalled by few, and exceeded by none of his brother prelates. At length, having attained with the perfect use of all his faculties, to the great age of 91 years, he died in 1717, at Hartlebury-castle, and was buried in the church of Fladbury, in Worcestershire. He was the author of several learned works, particularly of the history of the government of the church upon the first establishment of Christianity in Britain; and of a chronological account of the life of Pythagoras, with a dissertation upon Porphyry's and Jamblechus's lives of that philosopher.

Thomas Hearne, an indefatigable collector of books and manuscripts, in the beginning of the present century, was the son of George Hearne, parish clerk of White-Waltham, and born at Littlefield-green in that parish, in the year 1680. He was educated, first at the free-school of Bray in Bucks, and afterwards at Edmund-hall in Oxford; and the expences of his education, in both these places, were defrayed by Francis Cherry, of Shottesbrooke, Esq; who generously adopted him as his son. Such was his

attachment to the purſuits of literature, and particularly to the ſtudy of Engliſh antiquities, that he refuſed ſome conſiderable preferments in the church, rather than leave his beloved Oxford, where he had ſuch excellent opportunities of gratifying his paſſion. In 1703, he became janitor of the public library, and about nine years after, was appointed under-librarian of the Bodleian library, where he employed himſelf chiefly in collating and publiſhing thoſe books, which make up his *collection*. He expired June the 10th, 1735. He lived and died a Nonjuror.

BRECK-

BRECKNOCKSHIRE.

THIS county is a part of South Wales, and is ſuppoſed to have received its name from the Welſh word *Brycheiniog*, which is derived by ſome authors, from *Brechanius*, an antient Britiſh prince of the country. It is bounded on the eaſt by Radnorſhire, Herefordſhire and Monmouthſhire; on the weſt by Caermarthenſhire and Cardiganſhire; by Glamorganſhire on the ſouth, and on the north by Cardiganſhire and Radnorſhire, being about 39 miles in length, 27 in breadth, and 109 in circumference. Though every where, but on the north ſide, it is very mountainous, yet it abounds with fertile vallies and extenſive plains, which produce a plentiful ſupply of corn, and feed multitudes of cattle. The air is ſharp on the hills, but mild in other parts, and extremely ſalubrious; and the county is replete with every article of neceſſary ſubſiſtence: black cattle and goats, horſes and deer, run every where in droves, and fowl and freſh-water fiſh are remarkably plentiful.

The principal rivers are, the Uſk, which iſſues from the Black Mountain on the S. W. ſide of the county, runs north, till it viſits Trecaſtle, then turning to the eaſt, and paſſing Brecknock, leaves the county, below Crickhowel: the Wye, which waters the north ſide, leaves it at Hay, and enters Herefordſhire: the Irvon, which ſprings from the hills to the N. W. runs ſouth towards Lhangamauck, and then turning to the

N. E. falls into the Wye at Bealt. Other rivers of leſs note, are the Groney, Hondhy, Iſker, Brane, Camalas and Croy, which fall into the Uſk; and the Dylas, Comaick, and Weverey, which empty themſelves into the Wye. They all abound with fiſh, particularly the Uſk and Wye, which are well ſtored with ſalmon and trout.

There is a lake, not far from Brecknock, called Brecknock-Mere, which is about two miles over every way, wherein is ſuch an amazing plenty of perch, tench and eels, that it is generally ſaid to be two thirds water, and one third fiſh. The method the inhabitants have of catching them, is ſomewhat curious. For this purpoſe they make uſe of a ſmall boat, called a coracle, which is nearly of an oval form, conſtructed of ſplit ſally-twigs, interwoven like baſkets; the bottom is round, and the part next the water, covered with a raw horſe's hide. In length it is about five feet, and in breadth three, and ſo light, that the fiſherman carries it to and from the lake, on his back. Each of theſe coracles holds one man, who, when ſeated, will row himſelf ſwiftly with one hand, whilſt with the other he manages his net, angling-rod, or other fiſhing tackle. This lake, by the Welſh, has been called *Lyhn Savedhan*, but is now more commonly named *Lhangorſſe-Pool*, and the country people have a tradition, that a large city was ſwallowed up here by an earthquake; but it muſt certainly be a fable; for no hiſtory informs us of any earthquake in England or Wales, ſufficiently violent to ſwallow up great towns. If ſuch a fact had been related of a lake in Naples, Sicily, or any other country much ſubject to ſuch calamities, it might, indeed, appear credible. They tell you the ſame ſtory of a lake in Glamorganſhire, another in Caer-

Caermarthenſhire, a third in Merionethſhire, and of a fourth in Radnorſhire, perhaps with equal foundation.

BRECKNOCKSHIRE contains 6 hundreds, 61 pariſhes, 4 market-towns, about 6000 houſes, 35300 inhabitants. It ſends two members to parliament, one for the county, and the other for the town of Brecknock. It is in the dioceſe of St. Davids, and province of Canterbury.

BRECKNOCK, the principal town, ſtands almoſt in the centre of the county. By the Britons it was called *Aber-hondhy*, becauſe, ſeated at the confluence of the rivers Hondhy and Uſk, over which there is a handſome ſtone-bridge of ſeven arches. It is a corporate town, divided into 11 wards, and is governed by two bailiffs, a recorder, 15 aldermen, 2 chamberlains, a town-clerk, 2 conſtables, and 2 ſergeants at mace, and the aſſizes for the county are held in it. The houſes are well built, and there are three pariſh churches, one of which, ſeated on an eminence, at the weſt end of the town, is collegiate. It is a moſt magnificent, ſpacious building, in the form of a croſs, near 200 feet long, and 60 broad. In the centre of the croſs, an embattled tower riſes, about 90 feet high, which lies open to the church, above the roof. The chancel has no ſide ailes, but the body of the church has, and is wainſcoted, flat at top, and painted. On the north ſide is a paved cloiſter, which opens into the church, and joins it to the priory-houſe, where the refectory, or dining-hall is ſtill remaining. This priory was founded by Barnard de Newmarch, for benedictine monks, in the reign of Henry I. dedicated to St. John the Evangeliſt, and made ſubordinate to Battle-abbey, in Suſſex. King Henry VIII. refounded it as a collegiate church, with 14 prebendaries, which

he tranſlated from Aber-Giviley, in Caermarthenſhire.

There was formerly a magnificent caſtle at Brecknock, and a ſtrong wall, with three gates, ſurrounded the town. The caſtle was built in the reign of William Rufus, by Bernard de Newmarch, the conqueror of this country, and afterwards repaired by the Brus's and the Bohuns. Dr. Morton, biſhop of Ely, was confined therein, by the protector Richard, afterwards Richard III. who committed him to the cuſtody of Humprey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, who procured Richard the crown; but being afterwards diſguſted with the biſhop, his priſoner, contrived his overthrow, and the promotion of Henry, earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII. which was all projected between them, in a tower of the caſtle, the ruins of which ſtill bear the name of Twr-Eli, or Ely tower, and was afterwards brought to an happy iſſue, though the duke loſt his life before its accompliſhment. We have given an engraved repreſentation of the ruins of this caſtle, for the further ſatisfaction of our readers.

The town was inhabited in the time of the Romans, which is evident from ſeveral coins of their emperors having been diſcovered, as well as from many Roman bricks which have been turned up by the plough, at a ſquare Roman camp, in the neighbourhood called *Y Gaer*, *the fortification*. Theſe bricks were all inſcribed LEG. II. AUG. Cloſe to this camp, in the middle of the highway, is a remarkable monument called Maen y Morynienn, or the Maiden-ſtone, which is a rude pillar, about ſix feet high, two broad, and ſix inches thick, having, on one ſide, the portraits of a man and woman, in ancient habits, carved with much labour, but little ſkill; becauſe

Vol. I. Page 126.

The South East View of Brecknock Castle.

becauſe they are raiſed conſiderably above the ſurface of the ſtone. It is undoubtedly very ancient; but whether a Britiſh or Roman remain, cannot be determined: however we have given a repreſentation thereof for the inſpection of the curious reader.

There is a woollen manufactory at Brecknock; and two markets, well furniſhed with corn, cattle and proviſions, are kept on Wedneſdays and Saturdays; alſo four fairs, held on May 4, July 5, September 10, and November 17, for leather, hops, cattle, and all ſorts of proviſions. It is 161 miles weſt from London.

LHANTHEW, is a village about two miles north of Brecknock, remarkable only for the caſtle in the neighbourhood, ſituated on the eaſt ſide of the river Hondhy; which running hence, about a mile to the ſouth, falls into the Uſk, and gives name to the town of Brecon, called, as obſerved above, by the Britons, Aber-hondhy. It is not certain when this caſtle was erected, or came into the poſſeſſion of the biſhop of St. David's; but in a ſtatute of that church, made by biſhop Henry Gower, in 1342, to diſcharge and exonerate the biſhops of this ſee, from keeping up more epiſcopal caſtles and houſes than were neceſſary, this of Lhanthew, and ſix other places of reſidence, were ordered to be ſupported and maintained; but the remains are, at this time, very inconſiderable, conſiſting only of ſome old walls, which, with the manor, are ſtill the property of the biſhops of St. David's.

We ſhall now conduct the curious traveller through the road from Brecknock to Abergaven-

ny, taking notice of every thing worthy remark, in our way.

About ſeven miles from Brecknock, we meet with Blaen-Lleveny caſtle, which is about two miles N. E. of this road, and ſo named from being placed near the riſe or head of the river Lleveny, which empties itſelf into Brecknock-mere. It is ſuppoſed the famous city Loventium, of Ptolemy, formerly ſtood near this caſtle, which is the more probable from the ruins found there, and all the great roads of the country tending thither: but in the laſt edition of Camden, Loventium, Loventinum, Luentium, or Luentinum, as it is variouſly written, is fixed at Lhan dewi brevi, in Cardiganſhire. The caſtle is ſituated remarkably low, between Tretwr caſtle and Brecon, not far from the north bank of the Uſk, and commands a fine view of the Mere. It was the demeſne of a very conſiderable baron, and fortified by Peter Fitz-Herbert, deſcended of Bernard Newmarch, lord of Brecon, and his wife Neſta, daughter of Griffin ap Llewellyn, prince of Wales: it afterwards, with its honours, came to the crown, but was granted away by king James I. and is now in private hands.

CRICKHOWEL, is about two miles and an half beyond Blaen-Lleveny caſtle, and is ſeated on the river Uſk, over which there is a bridge. It conſiſts of about an hundred houſes, one of which is a good and commodious inn. It is governed by a bailiff and two burgeſſes, has a ſmall market on Thurſdays, and a fair, held on May 12, for cattle, ſheep, goats and horſes. It is diſtant from London 148 miles weſt. There are in this town the ruins of Alaſby caſtle, but it is uncertain who erected it. It has been an expenſive place, and we have given the annexed view of it, in its preſent ſituation.

About

Vol. I Page 128.

The South View of Crickhowel Castle in the County of Brecknock.

About three miles from Crickhowel, in a low vale, near the river Uſk, was ſituated, Tretwr caſtle, a place of great antiquity, which was the reſidence of Mynarch, lord of Brecon. Some ruins of this caſtle are ſtill remaining, and among them, a lofty round tower.

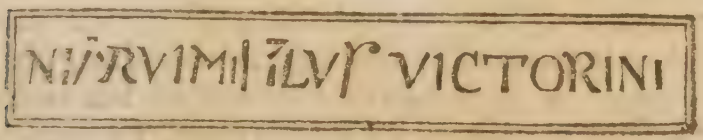
We muſt now return to Brecknock, where all the roads in this county meet, and proceed N. E. on that into Herefordſhire, where we firſt meet with,

TALGARTH, five miles from Brecon, a village which has no leſs than ſix annual fairs, on March 12, May 31, July 10, Sept. 23, Nov. 3, and Dec. 3, all for cattle, ſheep and horſes.

At PENTRE YSKY THROG, between Brecknock and Talgarth, a ſtone pillar ſtands in the highway, of a cylindrical form, and about ſix feet high, on which is the following mutilated inſcription, to be read downwards; but little of it is now legible, and in very barbarous characters,

N.... FILIUS VICTORINI.

Perhaps it was a monument erected to the memory of ſome deceaſed perſon, though ſuppoſed of a later date than the times of the Romans. We have ſubjoined a cut of it, for the gratification of our more curious readers.



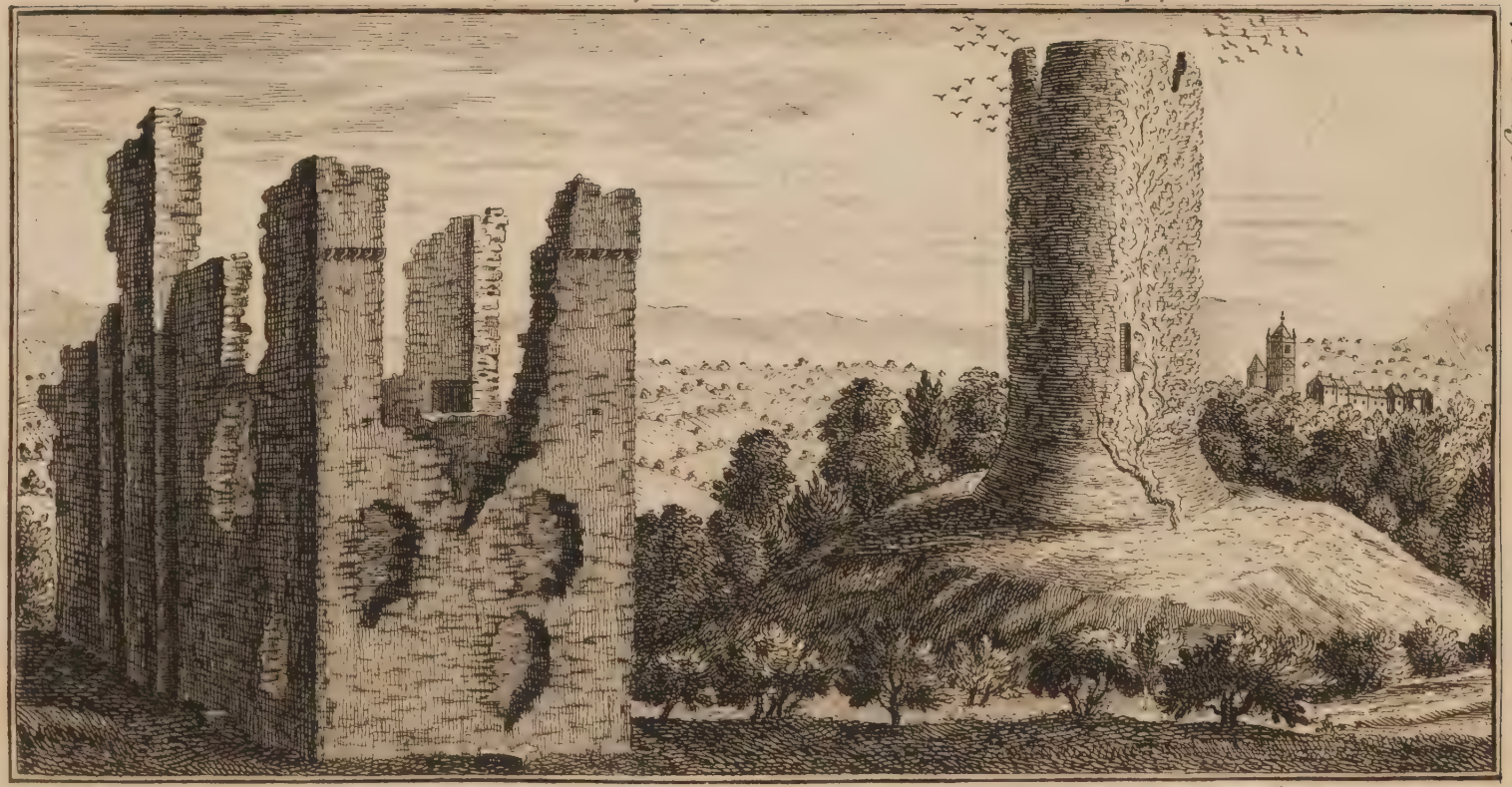
HAY, is between ſix and ſeven miles from Talgarth, on the ſame road, ſeated on the banks of the Wye, and on the borders of Herefordſhire. In the rebellion of Owen Glyn-dwr, or Glendowrdwr,

dowrdwy, it ſuffered greatly, and was reduced to a ſmall village; at preſent it is in a better ſtate, having a great market, for corn, cattle, and proviſions, on Thurſdays, and three fairs, on May 17, Auguſt 12, and October 10, for ſheep, horned cattle and horſes. It is diſtant 135 miles, W. by N. from London. This place muſt have been well known to the Romans; for traces of walls, and ſome of their coins have been diſcovered. Some ruins of a caſtle ſtill may be ſeen. It formerly was called Haia and Tregelhi, and belonged to William de Brus, lord of Brecknock, and was almoſt deſtroyed in 1216, by Lewis, dauphin of France, who had been invited into England, by the barons diſaffected to king John.

BRWYNLLYS, or BRUNLESS caſtle, is ſituated on the Sheveney, a ſmall river which empties itſelf into the Wye, oppoſite Talgarth, and ſtands within ſight of this road. It is uncertain when, or by whom it was built; but in the reign of Henry II. Mahel, ſon of Bernard Newmarch, lord of Brecon, by Neſta, there met with the juſt puniſhment of his crimes. As he was plundering the lands of David Fitz-gerald, biſhop of St. David's, he was entertained by Walter Clifford, in this caſtle, for one night, when the caſtle took fire, and Mahel in endeavouring to eſcape the flames, was killed by the fall of a ſtone. There is an extraordinary circumſtance, worth recording relative to this Mahel, and his mother. After the death of his father, having affronted a young lord, with whom Neſta was too familiar, ſhe in revenge, at once deprived herſelf of her reputation, and Mahel of his inheritance, by ſwearing before Henry II. that he was begotten in adultery, and was not the ſon of Bernard her huſband. In conſequence, the eſtate devolved on Mahel's ſiſter Sibyl, wife of Milo earl of Hereford, whoſe

five

The North View of Brnynllys Castle in the County of Brecknock.



Vol. I Page 131.

five ſons dying without iſſue, this large inheritance came to his daughter, Bertha, who marrying Philip de Brus, had iſſue by him William de Brus, lord of Brecknock, from whoſe family it came, by an heireſs, to the Bohuns, and laſtly to the Staffords; but by the attainder of Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, in the reign of Henry VIII. it was forfeited to the crown. We have given an engraving of the ruins of Brwynllys caſtle, which will evidence its having been a large ſtructure. The walls now remaining are very lofty, and the round tower, on an eminence, is almoſt entire.

It is neceſſary we ſhould now proceed in the road from the county town, towards Radnorſhire, where the only place we meet with, of any note, is,

Beuhalt, Bealt, or Builth, a town of conſiderable antiquity, about 12 miles, north of Brecon, pleaſantly ſeated on the river Wye, over which is a wooden bridge, leading into Radnorſhire. Camden obſerves, that Ptolemy calls this place *Bullæum Sylurum*, but other antiquaries doubt, whether that Roman fort was in this county, Horſeley particularly placing Bullæum, the Burrium of Antoninus, at Uſke, in Monmouthſhire. Some imagine it was at Kaereu, which was certainly a Roman fort, for the word ſignifies walls, or a rampire, and was prefixed by the ancient Britons, to almoſt all the Roman towns and caſtles. Roman Bricks are often dug up there, and we meet with other evident ſigns of a Roman work, but it is now only a gentleman's houſe, and not far from it is another houſe called Caſtelham. Builth was formerly a place of no inconſiderable account, being fortified with a caſtle; but in the year 1690, a great part of it next the river, was burnt down by an accidental fire.

ſhire. At preſent it is remarkable for a very good market, on Mondays for live cattle, and two ſmaller, on Thurſdays and Saturdays, for proviſions, and a manufactory of Stockings. The three fairs are held on June 27, Oct. 2, and Dec. 6, for ſheep, horned cattle and horſes, and it is 162 miles W. by N. from London.

The neighbouring mountains and rocky track of country are called Bewhalt from this town; and thither Vortigern retired, when the Saxons made incurſions into the country, and there, by the permiſſion of Ambroſius, his ſon Paſcentius governed.

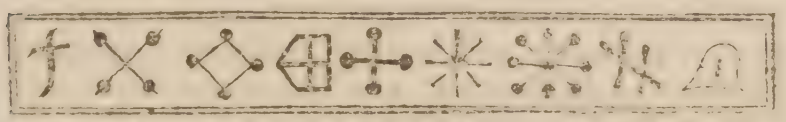
On the weſtern road from Breckon into Caermarthenſhire, we meet, in this county only with Trecaſtle, about 12 miles W. by N. from that town, where there are ſix fairs, held on April 5, May 21, Aug. 14, Oct. 14, Nov. 18, and Dec. 14, all for ſheep, cattle, hogs and horſes.

Penkelly caſtle on the borders of Herefordſhire, was beſieged and taken in the reign of Henry III. by prince Llewellyn, and ſoon after the biſhop of Hereford, taking advantage of that prince's abſence, ſent his brother Reynold to Brecon, where among other ſtrong holds, this caſtle was ſurrendered to him; but a few years after he was diſpoſſeſſed of it by P. Maelgon. The ruins evidence it to have been a magnificent ſtructure; but it is uncertain by whom, or when it was built.

In the highway in the pariſh of Vanor, is a croſs, with an inſcription, which though entire, is difficult to be underſtood; but the name *Tilus*, is ſuppoſed to be contained in it, which is otherwiſe called *Tilaus* or *Teilaw*, and is known to have been the name of an ancient ſaint, to whom many churches in Wales were dedicated. We have given a repreſentation of it in this place.

In

In Llahn Hammwalch parish, is an ancient monument called Ichtud, or St. Ittut's hermitage, which stands on the summit of a hill, not far from the church, composed of four large stones, of a flattish form, but altogether rude and unpolished. Three of them are pitched in the ground, and the fourth serves them for a cover; so that together they make an oblong square hut, open at one end, being about eight feet in length, four in width, and nearly the same in height: within, the two side stones are inscribed with a number of crosses, as represented in the annexed cut.



This hut seems to have been erected in the Pagan times, and very probably, by the ancient Druids; because there are other stones of this sort, well known to have been of their erection. At present there is no circle round it, but there seems to have been one originally, some traces of it being still to be seen, and a stone which stood within a few paces of the cell, has been carried away but a few years since, where there are other stones now remaining.

Few rare plants are met with in Brecknockshire, but what are to be found in other Welsh counties. We shall just mention the following.

English Wood, bitter *Vetch*, — *Orobus Sylvaticus nostras.* Ray. *Orobus foliis pinnatis, oblongo-ovatis obtusis, stipulis semi sagittatis integerrimis. caule hirsuto.* Miller; grows below Brecknock-hills, in the way to Cardiff.

Club-

Club-moſs, or *Wolves-claw*. *Muſcus clavatus, ſive Lycopodium*; Pack; grows in the mountains of Brecknock.

Brecknockſhire is very mountainous, and ſome of the mountains are exceeding high, particularly Canterbochan, Talgar, Ewias, and above all, Mouchdenny, not far from Brecknock.

The ancient inhabitants were the Silures, who defended themſelves, with great bravery, againſt the Romans, till vanquiſhed by Julius Frontinus. After the Britons retired into Wales, they preſerved their liberty, under their own princes, in theſe parts, till the reign of William Rufus, when Bernard Newmarch a Norman baron, of undaunted courage, and refined policy, having aſſembled a conſiderable body of troops, Engliſh and Normans, firſt attempted the entire reduction of the country; and having defeated and ſlain Bledhyn ap Maenyrch, and ſeized on the lordſhip of Brecon, forced his ſon and heir Gwgan (Vaughan) to accept of what he thought proper to leave him, which were the lordſhip and manors of Lhan, Vihangel, Taly, Lhyn, part of Lhan Lhyeni, and Kantriv ſeliv, with an apartment in the caſtle of Brecknock, out of which he was never permitted to go, without two or more Norman knights to attend him. Bernard erected forts, divided the lands amongſt his followers, and the better to ſtrengthen his intereſt with the Welſh, married Neſta, daughter of Gruffyth, prince of Wales, as before mentioned.

James Howel, a voluminous writer of the 17th century, was born in this county, about the year 1596, and ſtudied in Jeſus College, Oxford. Upon his leaving the Univerſity, he travelled into foreign parts, as agent to the proprietors of a glaſs-houſe, in London; and afterwards made the tour of France, as tutor to a young gentleman.

He

He was gratified with ſome conſiderable places under the then government, and was choſen member of parliament, for the borough of Richmond, in Yorkſhire, but having imprudently run himſelf in debt, he was thrown into priſon, where moſt of his works were compoſed. Though a zealous loyaliſt in the reign of king Charles the firſt, he flattered Oliver Cromwell, during his uſurpation; notwithſtanding which, upon the reſtoration, he was made Hiſtoriographer royal, being the firſt who had ever enjoyed that title. Of all his productions, his familiar letters, and his abridgment of the Engliſh hiſtory are moſt eſteemed, though the latter is very injudiciouſly wrote. He died in the beginning of November, 1666, and his remains were interred in the Temple church, London. The inſcription upon his tomb concludes thus: *hucuſque erraticus, hic fixus.*

BUCK-

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THIS county probably received it's name from the great number of Bucks or Deer, with which it formerly abounded, called in Saxon *Buc*, though ſome have derived it from Bucken or Buccum, ſignifying Beech trees, which grew here in great plenty.

It is an inland county, ſeparated from Berkſhire on the ſouth by the river Thames; on the weſt it borders on Oxfordſhire, on the north on Northamptonſhire; and Bedfordſhire, Hertfordſhire, and part of Middleſex, lye on the eaſt. It is in length, about 45 miles, in breadth, about 18; and in circumference 138 miles. It's chief rivers, beſides the Thames, are the Ouſe and the Coln. The ſoil of the Chiltern is ſtony, and in the vale, chiefly chalk or marle. The air is for the moſt part wholeſome, particularly in the Chiltern or hilly part of the country, and even in the vale it is far from being ſo unhealthy as low countries generally are. It's chief commodities are corn, wood, ſheep, and oxen, and it's principal manufactures bone-lace and paper. The Juniper buſh is common to this, as well as to ſome other counties, it grows plentifully by the road-ſide, near Amerſham. This is the *Juniperus foliis ternis patentibus mucronatis.* Lin. Spec. Plant. and the *Juniperus vulgaris fruticoſa* C. B. the common Engliſh Juniper. It is chiefly to be met with on chalky lands. Juni-

per

per berries are uſeful carminatives, detergents and diuretics. The diſtilled oil is a very ſtimulating diuretic, approaching in quality to that of terpentine, like which it impregnates the wine with a violet ſmell; as does likewiſe the berry in ſubſtance in a lower degree, but the watery extract or rob has no ſuch effect, being diveſted of the oil. This laſt may be uſed with advantage in caſes where the more ſtimulating preparations would be improper, as in catarrhs, debilities of the ſtomach and inteſtines, and difficulties of the urinary excretions, in perſons of an advanced age. Among the aromatics that have been tried in compoſition with juniper berries, ſweet fennel ſeed, and carraway ſeeds, ſeem the beſt adapted to improve their flavour: a cordial water (Ag. juniperi comp. ph. L.) is prepared in the ſhops by drawing off a gallon of proof ſpirit, from a pound of the berries, and an ounce and a half of each of the ſeeds. The water is ſtrongly impregnated with the volatile virtue of the berry, to which thoſe which are more fixt, may in many caſes be uſefully ſuperadded by mixing with it a proper quantity of the rob. The wood, (*Lignum Juniperinum Pharm. Edinb. Cedrinum Lignum. Pharm. Pariſ.*) has been recommended as a ſudorific, and by ſome accounted ſimilar to Guaiacum or Saſſafas, to either of which it is greatly inferior. It has a weak, not unpleaſant ſmell, and very little taſte: decoctions and extracts, made from it with water, are diſagreeably bitteriſh, ſubaſtringent and balſamic: the ſpirituous tinctures are weaker than the watery, and yield on being inſpiſſated, an almoſt inſipid reſin. The quantity of watery extract, according to Cartheuſer's experiments, is about one twelfth the weight of the wood; of ſpirituous extract one eighth.

We

We alſo find in this county, near Beaconsfield in the ſame hundred, Wall Rue. This is the *Ruta Muraria* or white Maidenhair, ſeldom uſed in medicine. Dr. Plukenet met with the mountain Cow Perſnep, with narrow ſerrated leaves, in the mountainous meadows, near Chalfont St. Giles. This we take to be the *Sphondylium foliolis auguſtioribus pinnatifidis ſerratis, radiis umbellarum minoribus*; Miller; and *Sphondylium hirſutum, foliis auguſtioribus*. C. B. This plant has no particular medicinal virtue, but it is not very common.

This county is divided into eight hundreds, in which are ſeventeen market towns. It is in the dioceſe of Lincoln, and contains 185 pariſhes, about 18390 houſes, 111340 inhabitants, and ſends fourteen members to parliament, viz. two for the county, and two each for Buckingham, Chipping Wicomb, Aileſbury, Agmondeſham, Wendover, and Great Marlow. Buckinghamſhire gives the title of duke to the illuſtrious family of Hubert, as the town of Buckingham formerly did to the families of Stafford and Villiers.

Buckinghamſhire, extending from north to ſouth, has many roads, which lead from thence to London. We ſhall begin with that which lies moſt to the ſouth, and proceed regularly to the northern part of the county.

The firſt town in the road which extends from this county through Middleſex to London, is COLNBROOK, which is ſituated on the weſtern borders of the county, nine miles eaſt by ſouth of Maidenhead, twenty-one on the ſame point from Reading, both in Berkſhire, and nineteen from London. The river Coln here divides this county from Middleſex, and the town ſtands on four channels of that river, over each of which it has a bridge. Camden imagined this place to

be

be the Pontes of Antoninus, but Dr. Stukely places this ſtation at Stanes; Horſeley is of opinion it ſhould be fixed at Old Windſor, on account of the number of antiquities which have been diſcovered there; and Leland, and others, have moved it to Reading. As this town is in the road from London to Bath, there are ſeveral good Inns in it for the accomodation of Travellers; it has alſo a charity School. The market is held here on Tueſdays, and there are two fairs, for horſes, cattle and ſheep, viz. on April 5, and May 3.

About three miles from Colnbrook, and a mile and a half out of the road, is DATCHET, a village ſeated near Windſor, on the north ſide of the Thames, which has been of ſome note from the horſe races that have been run near it. It has a bridge built over the Thames, by queen Anne, and is mentioned by Shakeſpear in his Merry Wives of Windſor.

EATON ſtands about a mile to the weſt of of Datchet, and is only ſeperated from Windſor, in Berkſhire, by a wooden bridge. This place is chiefly remarkable for its college, founded by that unhappy prince, Henry VI. in 1441. It has a provoſt, ſeven fellows, one of whom is vice-provoſt, two ſchool maſters, two conducts, an organiſt, and ſeventy ſcholars on the foundation, who have all lodgings in the college, and are provided with neceſſaries. There are here apartments for the provoſt and fellows, a large hall, a chapel, library, and ſchool-houſe, where the ſcholars are fitted for the univerſity, and when properly qualified, are elected on the firſt Tueſday in Auguſt, to be ſent to king's college in Cambridge; where, after they have been ſtudents three years, they claim a fellowſhip: But there not being always a vacancy at Cambridge, the ſcholars remain at Eaton, till vacancies happen; and

and theſe they fill up according to ſeniority. The ſchool is divided into two parts, the upper and the lower; and each of theſe is ſubdivided into three claſſes. Children are admitted very young into the lower ſchool; but none enter the upper ſchool till they can make latin verſes, and have ſome knowledge of Greek. Beſides the ſeventy ſcholars on the foundation, there are ſeldom leſs than three hundred youths, the ſons of perſons of rank, for whoſe education the maſters are paid, and who board in the town, or at the maſters houſes. Hence the maſter of each ſchool has four aſſiſtants or uſhers. The building has large Cloiſters, and the chapel is a noble pile of Gothic architecture. The preſent ſchool is, however, a modern building, and the other parts of the college have been repaired and beautified at a great expence. The gardens of the college are extenſive and pleaſant. There is alſo a library for the uſe of the ſchool, which was greatly enriched by the collections of Dr. Waddington, biſhop of Cheſter, and the lord chief juſtice Reeves. The revenues of this ſchool amount to about five thouſand pounds a year. Eaton has the ſame market as Windſor, and a fair on Aſh-Wedneſday, for horſes and cattle.

William Oughtred, was born at the place, about the year 1573; he was educated at the above ſchool, and afterwards at king's college, in Cambridge, where he applied himſelf chiefly to the ſtudy of the mathematics. Reſolving, moſt judiciouſly, to trace this ſcience from its fountain head, he read all the ancient authors, who had treated of the ſubject, particularly Euclid, Archimedes, Apollonius, Pergœus, and Diophantus; by which means he was enabled, not only to comprehend the diſcoveries of others, but likewiſe to enrich them with ſeveral of his own. Having

Having taking Prieſt's orders, he was preſented to the rectory of Aldbury, near Guilford, in Surry, where he lived many years; and where, as is commonly ſuppoſed, he died about the time of the reſtoration. Mr. Collier ſays, that he died of joy at this great event; but Mr. Lloyd affirms, that he ſurvived it above a month. His works are *Clavis Mathematicæ denuo limata*, &c. *The Circles of Proportion*; *Trigonometria Opuſcula*, in Octavo. Oxon, 1676.

At ANKERWYKE, not far from Eaton college, was a benedictine nunnery, built by Sir Gilbert de Montfichet, knight, and Richard his ſon, in the time of Henry II. There were five nuns here at the diſſolution, and their revenue was 32l. 0s. 2d. per ann.

BURNHAM is a village, which gives name to the hundred, in which it ſtands, and is ſeated about five miles to the north eaſt of Eaton, and two miles eaſt of Maidenhead, in Berkſhire. It has three fairs, namely, on the 25th of February, and the 1ſt of May, for horſes, horned cattle, ſheep, and hogs, with one on the 21ſt of September for horſes, horned cattle, hogs, and hiring ſervants.

There was at this place a monaſtery of Benedictines, conſiſting of an abbeſs and ſeven or eight nuns, founded by Richard king of the Romans, and dedicated to God and St. Mary in the year 1266. He alſo endowed it with the manor and advowſon of Burnham, and ſeveral other lands adjacent. The witneſſes to whoſe charter of foundation were his brother king Henry III. prince Edward his eldeſt ſon, and many others. It was valued at the diſſolution by king Henry acccording to Dugdale, at 51l. 2s. 4d. and according to Speed, at 91l. 5s. 11d. per annum.

Robert

Robert Aldrich, an Engliſh prelate in the reigns of Henry VIII. Edward VI. and queen Mary, was born in this village, educated in grammer learning at Eaton ſchool, and elected ſcholar of king's college, in Cambridge, 1507. Having taken the degree of maſter of arts, he was choſen, ſoon after, proctor of the univerſity, ſchool-maſter of Eaton, fellow of that college, and at laſt provoſt. In 1529 he retired to Oxford, where he received the degree of batchelor in divinity; and having afterwards graduated doctor in that faculty, he became, in a little time, archdeacon of Colcheſter, canon of Windſor, regiſter of the moſt noble order of the garter, and, in 1537, was promoted to the biſhoprick of Carliſle. He died March the 25th, 1555, at Horn-Caſtle, in Lincolnſhire.

At TAPLOW, a village about a mile to the north-weſt of Burnham, was diſcovered not many years ſince, a round cave, nineteen feet high, and about ten feet wide. It is on the declivity of a chalky hill, near the bottom, and adjoining to the Thames; it has an arched roof or ceiling, and was evidently made by art, though on what occaſion it is not eaſy to determine. There is here a hill ſo high, that it is ſaid to have as pleaſant a proſpect as from Windſor caſtle.

About two miles to the north of Taplow, is CLIFDEN, or CLIEFDEN, a village near the Thames, where George duke of Buckingham began a magnificent palace, but did not live to finiſh it. This ſtructure is in a delightful ſituation, on the ſide of a hill, and has been in our time chiefly known for its being the ſummer reſidence of his late royal highneſs, Frederick prince of Wales, father of his preſent majeſty.

We ſhall now return back to the eaſtern part of the county, where two roads enter it from Uxbridge, one of which runs ſouth-weſt towards Eaton,

Eaton, and has near it IVER or EURE, a little village which took it's name from Roger de Ivery, who came into England with William the Conqueror; it is only one mile ſouth-weſt of Uxbridge, and has only one fair on July 11, for cattle, ſheep and hogs.

STOKE, which gives name to the hundred in which it ſtands, is now an inconſiderable village, nearly in the road way between Uxbridge and Eaton; about a mile out of the road. It is alſo called Stoke Pogeis, from the family of Pogeis, formerly lords of it. It deſcended by female heirs to the Molins, and from them by the Hungerfords to the Haſtings.

In the pariſh church of this place, George and Ann, the firſt earl and counteſs of Huntingdon, lie interred. Edward lord Haſtings of Loughborough, their third ſon, who was in great favour with queen Mary, built a chapel and hoſpital here, which ſtill ſubſiſts; and on the death of that queen, retired to a houſe adjoining to the hoſpital, where he died, and was, according to his deſire, buried in the chapel.

The other road, which we have mentioned as running from Uxbridge into this county, extends northwards to Beaconsfield, and has many other roads branching from it in different directions.

BEACONSFIELD is a ſmall market town, ſeated on a hill, 27 miles from London, and conſiſts of about 100 well built houſes, among which there ſeveral good Inns. It is the birth place of Edmund Waller the famous poet, who contributed greatly towards the refinement of the Engliſh language. It has a market on Thurſdays, and two fairs, namely, on February 13, for horſes, cows, and ſheep, and on Holy Thurſday for the ſame.

About 2 miles ſouth weſt of Beaconsfield, is WOBURN, or UBERN, a ſmall town in a pleaſant ſituation. Here Philip lord Wharton built a handſome ſeat. A market is held here on Fridays, and it has two fairs, namely, on May 4, and Nov. 12, for horſes, cows, and ſheep.

From hence a road extends ſouth weſt to GREAT-MARLOW, a market town, 7 miles ſouth weſt of Beaconsfield, and 31 weſt of London. It is ſeated on the river Thames, over which it has a bridge that leads into Berkſhire. It is a pretty large place, ſends two members to parliament, and has a good market on Saturdays. It has alſo one fair, on October 29, for cheeſe, hops, and cattle.

There is a handſome church and town hall here, and a charity ſchool for twenty boys. A conſiderable quantity of Bone-lace is made in the neighbourhood, and there are alſo near it on the river Lodon, ſeveral paper mills and oil mills. It is however chiefly noted for the great quantities of malt and meal that are brought thither from the neighbouring towns, in order to be conveyed to London in barges on the Thames.

About a mile to the north weſt of Great-Marlow, is LITTLE MARLOW, where there was a nunnery of benedictines, founded before the reign of king John, by Geoffrey lord Spencer, and dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin, which was valued at the diſſolution at no more than 23l. 3s. 7d. per annum.

About four miles ſouth weſt of Great Marlow, is MEDMENHAM, or MEDNAM, which had a ſmall priory of Ciſtertian monks, ſubordinate to Woburn, founded by Hugh de Bolebec, in the reign of king John, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was valued at the diſſolution at 20l. 6s. 2d. per annum.

Returning

Returning back to Great-Marlow, we ſhall proceed from thence to HIGH-WICKHAM, or CHIPPING-WYCOMB, both of which names are derived from the river Wick. This town is ſituated four miles north of Great-Marlow, 22 ſouth-eaſt of Oxford; 80 eaſt by ſouth of Worceſter; 33 north weſt of London, and contains about 300 houſes. It is ſeated in a pleaſant valley, and has ſeveral good inns for the accommodation of paſſengers, the houſes are pretty well built; but it chiefly conſiſts of one large ſtreet. Lord Deſpenſer has lately build an elegant new church here, on the top of a hill, which was conſecrated in the year 1763. The town is governed by a mayor, recorder, twelve aldermen, a town clerk, and two bailiffs, and has a great corn market on Fridays. It had an hoſpital of St. John of Jeruſalem; but after the diſſolution of religious houſes, the lands belonging thereto, were given by queen Elizabeth to the corporation, for the maintenance of a free grammar ſchool, and certain alms-people. It has only one fair, on September 25, and that is chiefly for hiring of ſervants. This place gives the title of baron to the family of Petty, earls of Shelbourne, &c. in Ireland, who have a fine ſeat in its neighbourhood.

There was probably a Roman ſtation at this town, for in the year 1724, a teſſelated Roman pavement was diſcovered by ſome workmen, who were digging in a meadow near the place, belonging to the earl of Shelbourne. It was about nine feet ſquare, curiouſly diſpoſed, and in high preſervation. Beſides the hoſpital above mentioned, there were alſo in this town an hoſpital for lepers, founded before the thirteenth year of Henry the third, and dedicated to St. Margaret and St. Gyles.

In this place, William Alley, an Engliſh biſhop of the ſixteenth century was born. He was educated at Eaton ſchool, began his academical ſtudies at Cambridge, and finiſhed them at Oxford. He enjoyed a living during the latter years of Henry VIII. and the whole reign of his ſucceſſor; but being a zealous reformer, he quitted his cure upon the acceſſion of queen Mary. During the reign of that princeſs, he travelled incognito in the northern parts of England, and ſupported himſelf and his wife by practiſing phyſic. Upon the acceſſion of Elizabeth, he came up to London, and read the divinity lecture at St. Paul's, by which he acquired ſo much reputation, that, in 1560, he was advanced to the biſhoprick of Exeter. In the verſion of the bible, undertaken by the command of queen Elizabeth, this prelate tranſlated the Pentateuch. He died the 15th of April, 1570, and was buried in the cathedral church of Exeter.

From hence a road extends north-weſt to Bradenham or Bradnam, which was ſo called from its ancient lords, and is ſeated about four miles from High-Wickham. The air is healthy and the ſituation commodious; and here, William, lord Windſor, created by Henry VIII. built a noble houſe.

We ſhall return back to the eaſtern part of this county, where it is entered by two roads from Rickmanſworth, in Hertfordſhire. The moſt ſouthern of theſe leads to AGMONDESHAM or AMERSHAM, which is 31 miles ſouth-eaſt of Buckingham, and 29 weſt of London. This is a very ancient market, and borough town, though not incorporated. It is ſituated near the Chiltern, or Chalk-hills, as they are more commonly called, on the high road to Buckingham, and is a pretty town, containing about 200 houſes.

houſes. It ſends two members to parliament, choſen by the lords tenants of the borough, paying ſcot and lot who are about 150 in number. The town conſiſts chiefly of one long ſtreet, croſſed in the middle by a ſhorter, and in the centre ſtands a church, which is ſaid to be the beſt rectory in the county. The town-hall or market houſe, is a handſome brick building, raiſed on pillars and arches, with a lanthorn and clock at the top, it was built by Sir William Drake, Knt. nephew to Sir William Drake, Bart. who bought the borough of king Charles the Second. It is pleaſantly ſeated in a valley between two woody hills, near the river Coln, and has a market on Tueſdays, with two fairs, viz. on Whitmonday and September 19, for ſheep. There is in this town a free ſchool founded by queen Elizabeth.

In the road between Amerſham and Wendover, at the diſtance of five miles from each, is MISSENDEN, a village, where there was a monaſtery of Black Canons, founded by the D'Oyleys, but endowed by Sir Thomas Miſſenden, on account of a vow he had made, in caſe he eſcaped from ſhipwreck. It was dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin, and was valued, at the diſſolution, at 216 *l.* 14*s*. 6*d*. *per annum*.

About three or four miles farther to the weſtward, and about a mile out of the road, are Great and Little Hampden, the ſeat and eſtate of one of the oldeſt families in this county of the ſame name; ſeveral of the Hampdens being ſheriffs and knights of the ſhire, in the reigns of Henry the Third, and Edward the Firſt, they are ſaid to have been ſettled here before the conqueſt, and were poſſeſſed of a conſiderable eſtate in the county, which by the will of the laſt poſſeſſor, devolved on the Hon. Robert Hampden-Trevor, now lord Trevor, who by act of parliament, aſſumed the name and arms of Hampden.

The next town on the road worthy of notice, is WENDOVER, which is 21 miles ſouth-eaſt of Buckingham, and 39 north-weſt of London. It ſtands in a low and miry ſituation, but has pleaſant hills on each ſide. It is an old borough town, conſiſting of about 150 houſes, and is at preſent but a poor place, though it ſends two members to parliament, and is a good thoroughfare on the road from London to Bucking-ing. It has a market on Thurſdays, and two fairs, on May 12 and October 2 for cattle. In this town is a charity ſchool for 20 boys.

Three miles ſouth-weſt of Wendover, is RISBOROUGH, which is ſeated on the hills, and has a market on Saturdays, with one fair held on the ſixth of May for cattle. At no great diſtance from this town, are two places, which ſeem to be of great antiquity: at Elleſborough there is on a round mount near the church, the remains of an ancient fortification, called Bellinus's caſtle, and the tradition among the inhabitants is, that king Bellinus reſided there. Near this place is another hill, called to this time *Belineſbury hill*. *Kymbel* alſo in this neighbourhood, is ſuppoſed to derive its name from *Cunobeline*, a Britiſh king, the name in ancient records being written *Cunebel*. Near this place are many trenches and remains of fortifications, whence it may probably be concluded, that this was the ſcene of action, when the Britons made ſuch a vigorous oppoſition to the Romans, under *Aulus Plautius* in their ſecond invaſion, at which time, *Caractacus* and *Togodumnus*, the two ſons of Cunobeline, were ſlain. At Prince's Riſborough, on the top of a hill, from whence it is ſaid thirteen counties may be ſeen, are the traces of a camp, and the way that goes by it is now called *Acknell-way* a corruption of *Icknild-way*. At the foot

foot of the hill, a coin of the emperor Veſpaſian was found. At Monks Riſborough, there was a cell to the monaſtery of Chriſt-church, Canterbury, the place being given to that monaſtery by *Aeſchwyn*, biſhop of Dorcheſter, about the year 991.

We cannot in a more proper place take notice of *Whiteleaf Croſs*, ſo called from the hamlet of Whiteleaf, in the pariſh of Monks Riſborough. It is an antiquity of the ſame nature with the *White-Horſe* already deſcribed in our account of Berkſhire, being formed after the ſame manner, on the ſide of an high and a ſteep chalky hill, facing the ſouth-weſt. The perpendicular line of the croſs is near one hundred feet in length, and about fifty in breath at the bottom, but decreaſing upwards till it ſcarcely exceeds twenty at the top. The tranſverſe line is about ſeventy feet in length, and twelve in breadth, and the trench cut into the chalk, is about two or three feet deep. It is formed beſides on a large baſis, the height of which ſeems to be almoſt equal to the perpendicular line, with a proportionable breadth, being therefore much more viſible than the croſs itſelf, and of great uſe to the eye, in catching the view at any conſiderable diſtance. The common people call this baſe, the globe, but improperly, its form approaching nearer to that of a triangle. The ſame cuſtom prevails of ſcouring the croſs, as is obſerved in cleaning the horſe, and the common people ſtill preſerve ſome imperfect traditions concerning contributions raiſed on this occaſion, and even from ſome of the colleges in Oxford. But if any eſtates have been formerly charged with the expence, time has long ſince made void the obligation, and the ſcouring is performed at the expence of the neighbourhood, but never without a merry-mak-

ing. The croſs was undoubtedly borne by the Chriſtian Saxons, as an enſign armorial; and Mr. Wiſe's opinion, that White-leaf-croſs was made in commemoration of ſome victory obtained by this people over the Daniſh pagans, is far from being improbable; but at what particular time, and on what occaſion this trophy was erected, is not ſo eaſily determined; Mr. Wiſe conjectures it to have been made either in the reign of king Alfred, or his ſon and ſucceſſor, Edward the elder. In the year 905, the Danes marched thro' the Mercian kingdom as far as Cricklade in Wiltſhire, which belonged to the Weſt-Saxons. In the year 921, they are ſaid to have carried off a great many priſoners, and a vaſt booty of cattle, between Ayleſbury and Bernwood foreſt, in Buckinghamſhire, which extended almoſt to Oxford. That the Saxons might be provided againſt theſe ſudden inroads, it was neceſſary for them to have fortified places upon their great roads; and the remains of one of theſe appears at Prince's Riſborough, juſt under the croſs, which the common people call *the Black Prince's palace*. The above cited learned author, Mr. Wiſe, imagines the croſs to have been made in memory of ſome victory gained by the troops quartered at this place, and there is a village within a mile or two of it, which ſeems to point out the very ſpot on which the battle was fought; *Bledelaw*, or *Bledlow*, for that is the name of it, implying the *bloody hill*.

When the Danes had penetrated through Mercia into the Weſt-Saxon kingdom, as far as Cricklade, or Bredon foreſt, in the year 905, as is noted above, they were perſued by king Edward, and as they were returning from their excurſion, a great battle was fought between them and the Saxons, in which, not only *Eoric* the Daniſh

Daniſh king was ſlain, with ſome of his nobles, but alſo Æthelwald Ætheling, king Edward's couſin german, who had ſet himſelf up for king of the weſt Saxons, and to ſupport himſelf the better, had inſtigated the Danes to this revolt, whereby an end was put to his rebellion. Whether this battle was fought at Bledlow, is not ſo eaſily determined, but it is worthy of obſervation, that Bledlow lies in the Danes rout, homewards from Bredon Foreſt, to the Eaſt Angles, and upon a great Roman road too, which, it may be preſumed, they generally choſe for the more ſpeedy and eaſy marching of their troops. If any of our readers are curious to ſee this matter treated more at large, we refer ſuch to the very ingenious Mr. Wiſe's account of this and other memorable remains of antiquity.

The other road we have mentioned, as extending from Rickmanſworth, alſo paſſes through this town, and has near the borders of the county, two old ſeats, namely, Cheneys, which is the burial place of the noble family of Ruſſel, and Latimer a ſeat of the duke of Devonſhire.

LATIMERS, alſo called ISLEHAMSTEAD, is a ſmall hamlet, with a chapel, in the pariſh of Cheſham. It is chiefly noted for the birth of Lady Temple, wife of Sir Thomas Temple, and daughter to Sir Edwin Sandys, anceſtor of the lord Sandys. This lady had by her huſband, four ſons and nine daughters, and lived to ſee ſeven hundred deſcended from her, ſhe died in the year 1656. The preſent earl Temple is a deſcendant of the above Sir Thomas Temple.

On this road is CHESHAM, which is ſeated eight miles to the eaſt of Wendover, and three miles north of Amerſham. It is, however, but a ſmall town, though it has a free ſchool, and a market on Wedneſdays, with three annual

fairs, namely, on the 21ſt of April, the 22d of July, and the 28th of Sept. all for cattle.

From Wendover, the road extends north eaſt to Dunſtable, in Bedfordſhire, and paſſes by IVINGHO in this county, which is ſix miles ſouth-weſt of Dunſtable, and 35 north-weſt of London. This is a ſmall town, ſituated in a barren ſoil, in a corner of the county, between Bedfordſhire and Hertfordſhire, and is ſurrounded with woods. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, viz. on May 6, and October 17, for cows, ſheep, and hogs. There was at this place a Benedictine nunnery, founded before the year 1160, by Henry de Blois, biſhop of Wincheſter, and dedicated to St. Margaret, and St. Nicholas. It was endowed with lands by Henry I. There were nine nuns at this place, at the diſſolution of monaſteries, yet was the revenue at that time no more than 14l. 3s. 1d. per annum.

Four miles ſouth-weſt of Ivingho is ASHRIDGE, or ESSERUG, a village where there was formerly a royal ſeat, as well as a religious houſe, founded by Edmund earl of Cornwall, ſon to Richard, king of the Romans, in the year 1243, for a ſort of Auguſtine monks; but at the ſuppreſſion of the monaſteries, it became the ſeat of the Egertons, earls, and now dukes of Bridgewater. It ſtands in the middle of a park, five miles in circumference, and is well ſtocked with Deer. The country about it is extremely pleaſant, and a fit habitation for thoſe who delight in hunting and fowling. From hence there is a proſpect into the Vale of Ayleſbury, which has a chalky and yet fruitful ſoil. It feeds a great number of cattle, but more eſpecially ſheep, remarkable for their fine fleeces. It is bounded on one ſide by the Chiltern hills, which run quite acroſs the county from ſouth-weſt to north-eaſt; but they

are

are better known to the vulgar, by the name of Chalk hills, especially near Dunstable.

We shall now return back to Wendover, and proceed by the road which leads south-west to AYLESBURY, or ALESBURY, which is a market town, five miles N. W. of Wendover, 16 S. E. of Buckingham, and 44 N. W. of London. It is seated upon an eminence, on a branch of the river Tame, at the east end of Aylesbury Vale, which is well stocked with horned cattle and sheep. The town consists of several streets, that lie round the market place. This is a large handsome square, in the midst of which stands the town hall, the assizes being held here in the winter. The market, which is on Saturdays, abounds with all kinds of provisions, which are generally sold at a reasonable price. It sends two members to parliament, who are chosen by the inhabitants, paying scot and lot, and returned by the constables, who are put in by the lord of the manor; though the town was incorporated by queen Mary, by the style of bailiff, aldermen, and burgesses. This town was a royal manor in the reign of William the Conqueror, who gave it to one of his favourites, to be held by an odd tenure, namely, that he should provide litter or straw, for the king's bed and chambers, and should furnish him with three eels in the winter, and two green geese in the summer, if the king should come that way. It contains about 400 houses, which are pretty well built; and there are three fairs held here, namely, on the Saturday before Palm Sunday, June 14, and Sept. 25, for cattle.

Aylesbury gave the title of earl to the noble family of Bruce, but the title is now extinct. The country round about is very dirty, but there is from this town a causeway, which goes three

miles in the way to London, raiſed at the expence of Baldwin, the chief juſtice, who alſo erected the town houſe, and ſome other buildings. There was in this town an ancient hoſpital, dedicated to St. John, ſaid to have been founded in the reign of Henry I. by ſeveral inhabitants of the town, but it did not long ſubſiſt, for in the time of Edward III. the building was in ruins and the endowments, valued only at five nobles or 1l. 13s. 4d. a year, had been ſeized by ſome lay perſons. There was alſo in this place another hoſpital for lepers, ſaid likewiſe to have been built by ſome of the inhabitants, about the ſame time the other was erected, and to have been endowed with 20s. per annum; it was called St. Leonard's, but fell to decay, about the reign of Edward III. There is alſo ſaid to have been a nunnery of Maturines, where the parſonage houſe now ſtands, and a houſe of Grey Friars, at the north end of the town, founded by James earl of Ormond, in the tenth year of Richard II. valued at 3l. 2s. 5d. per annum.

UPPER WINCHENDEN, or WINCHINGTON, is three miles weſt of Ayleſbury, and is remarkable for being the ſeat of Philip, lord Warton, which came to him by marriage. It was inhabited by his ſon Thomas, late marquiſs of Warton, who was created viſcount Winchington, and who adorned it with ſeveral magnificent buildings, and the gardens were at that time thought to be the fineſt in the county.

About four miles to the weſt of Aylſbury, is CHERSLEY, or CHERSEY, which is ſuppoſed by Mr. Camden, to have been the *Cerdicflega* or *Cerdices Leag*, mentioned in the Saxon annals, where Cerdic, founder of the weſt Saxon monarchy, had a bloody fight with the Britains, in the year 527, being attended by his ſon Cenric, who

was

was greatly inſtrumental, by his valour and conduct, to the victory that was obtained here.

WING, or WENGE, is a village ſix miles north-eaſt of Ayleſbury. At Aſcot in this pariſh, there was a cell of Benedictine monks, which Maud the empreſs, gave to the abbey of St. Nicholas, at Angiers, in France, but when Henry VII. diſſolved the alien priories, it was given to the monaſtery of St. Albans in Hertfordſhire. Wing gave the title of baron to the Dormers, earls of Caernarvon, and now to the lords Dormer. And Aſcot gave the title of viſcount to the ſame earls.

BERNWOOD FOREST, which is on the edge of the county, next Oxfordſhire, eight miles weſt of Ayleſbury, was formerly noted for its foreſters, becauſe Nigel, one of them, having killed a wild Boar, the king gave him a piece of land, called *Deerhide*. On this he built a houſe, to which he gave the name of *Borſtall*, or *Boſtall*. William the Conqueror confirmed the ſaid land to him, but he was to hold it by the livery of a horn; which tenure is obſerved to this day. In the civil wars it was made a garriſon for Charles I. and being attacked by general Fairfax in 1645, after he had by the parliament's orders raiſed the ſeige of Oxford, it was defended with ſuch gallantry, by colonel Campion, the governor, that Fairfax was obliged to retire with great loſs.

Near the ſouthern extremity of the above Foreſt is ICKFORD, which is thought to be the place of treaty between king Edward the Elder and the Danes, in the year 907. In Brompton's Chronicles it is called Ichingford.

LUDGARSHALL, or LITHERSHALL, lies cloſe to Bernwood Foreſt, on the weſtern borders of the county. There was here an Alien priory, or hoſpital, ſubordinate to the great hoſpital of Santingfield in Piccardy, to which king Henry II.

hal

had for that purpoſe granted three hides of land. This was afterwards diſſolved, and given to King's college, Cambridge.

About two miles to the north of Ayleſbury, is QUARENDON, a depopulated village, with a chapel, dedicated to St. Peter, now diſuſed, in the pariſh of Beirton. We mention it becauſe it gives the title of viſcount to the earls of Litchfield, and alſo becauſe there is in this manor a paſture called Beryfield, lately in one entire piece, which lets yearly for 800l. And the lordſhip of Creſlow, is alſo worth notice; for though it contains not above five hundred acres of land, it hath yielded a rent of above 800l. a year.

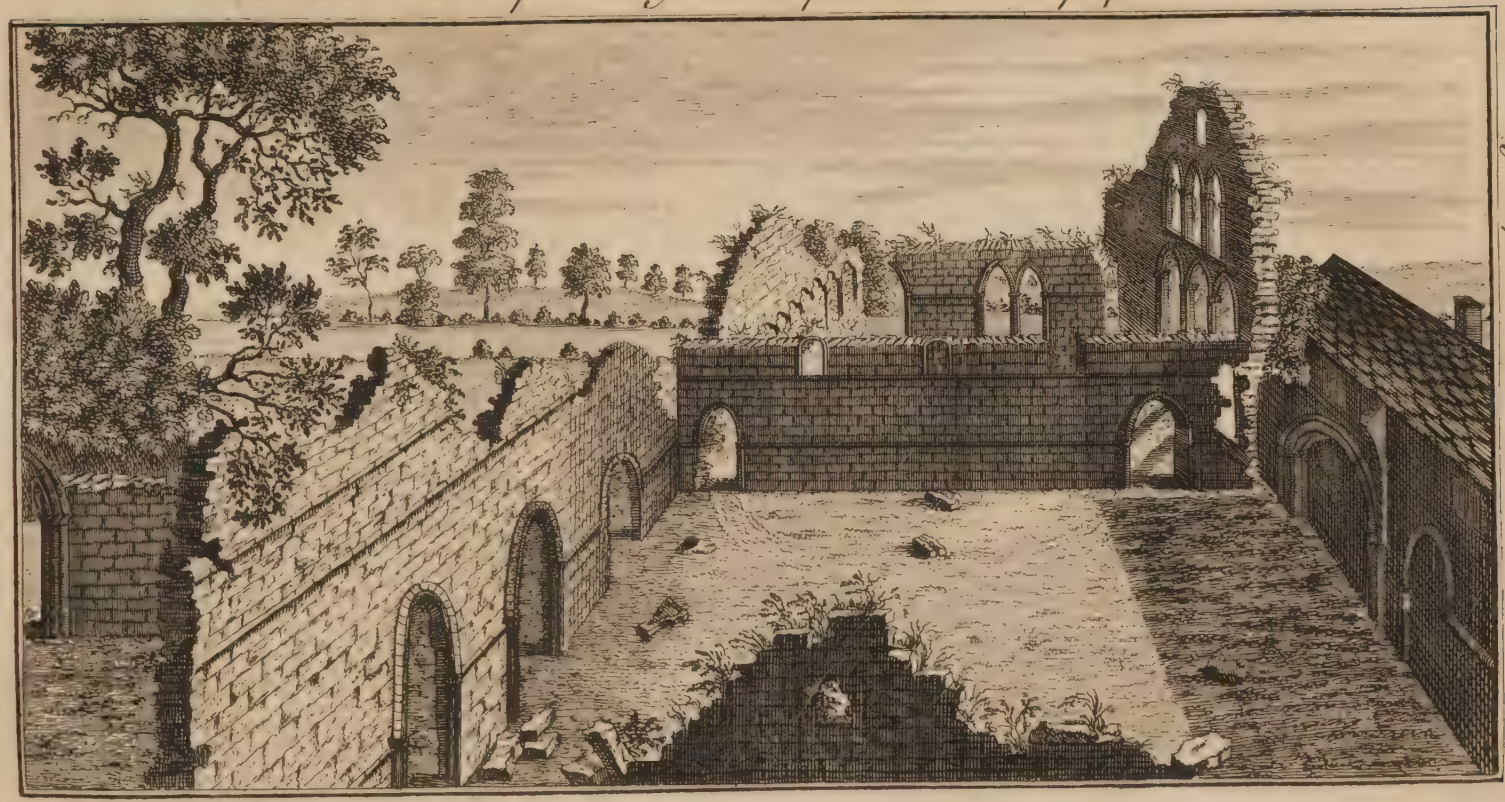
Proceeding ſtill to the northward, in the way to Buckingham, you come to HOGSHAW, which lies a mile out of the road, to the left, and is a depopulated village, pleaſantly ſeated among hills, about four or five miles to the S. W. of Winſlow, now included in eaſt Clendon pariſh. There was here a precentory, commandry, or hoſpital, belonging to the knights of St. John of Jeruſalem, as ancient as the year 1180.

WINSLOW, is a ſmall town, nine miles S. E. of Buckingham, and about two miles to the right, out of the direct road from Ayleſbury to Buckingham. It is ſeated in a good ſoil, where there is plenty of wood, and has a market on Thurſdays, well furniſhed with corn and proviſions; it has alſo two fairs on Holy Thurſday, and Auguſt 21, for cattle.

Robert Gibbs, of this town, had ſix ſons, Robert, Richard, William, Thomas, John, and Stephen, who rang the bells of Winſlow church, for forty years ſucceſſively. The eldeſt rang the tenor, and every ſon had his bell, in right of ſeniority. Richard, William, and Stephen were within theſe few years living.

Near

The East View of Nulley Abbey in the County of Bucks.



Vol. I. Page. 157.

Near Winſlow, in the manor of Credendon, or Crendon, are the ruins of a caſtle, built by Hugh de Bolebee, heir to Walter Giffard, the ſecond earl of Buckingham, about the middle of the twelfth century. It is about ſix miles from Aylesbury, and 45 from London. In the manor of Crenden abovementioned, there was alſo an abbey called Noctele, or Nuttley, of the ruins of which an engraved view is given with this work.

Nutley Abbey, otherwiſe called Sancta Maria de Parcho Crendon, was founded and endowed by Walter Giffard, ſecond earl of Buckingham, and Cormengard his wife, for canons regular of the order of St. Auſtin, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. John the Baptiſt, in 1162, which endowments were confirmed by king Henry II. and by king John, with additional liberties and immunities. He granted alſo to William Mareſcal and his heirs, the gift of the paſtoral ſtaff of the ſaid abbey; and the church of All Saints, at Bradley, in the dioceſe of Sarum, with divers other benefactions. Annual value 437l. 6s. 8d. Dugdale; 495l. 18s. 5d. ½. Speed. At the diſſolution the ſociety conſiſted of eighteen Monks.

About four miles eaſt of Winſlow, is STUKELEY, a large pariſh, with a very old church, probably built before the conqueſt, in the ancient plain manner. It conſiſts of a parallelogram of four ſquares, two of which are alloted to the church, and another is covered by the ſteeple, which ſtands between it and the choir, which is vaulted over with ſtone. The windows are ſmall, with ſemicircular arches; and at the weſt end are three arches, in the middlemoſt of which is the door.

BUCKINGHAM the county town, is ſituated ſeven miles north weſt of Winſlow, 24 north north eaſt of Oxford, 27 weſt by ſouth of Bedford,

ford, 55 eaſt by ſouth of Cambridge, and 60 north-weſt of London. The river Ouze runs cloſe by it, or rather ſurrounds it, on all ſides, except the north, and is very commodious for turning of ſeveral mills. It had a caſtle, now entirely demoliſhed, which divided the place into two parts, namely, the north and the ſouth, in which laſt the town hall ſtands. There is alſo a priſon lately built, on account of the aſſizes being in ſummer held here, by a late act of parliament as they ſometimes had before been. The buildings are but mean; there are three ſtone bridges over the river, which renders the country about it very fruitful. It is an ancient borough, and was incorporated by charter from king Charles II. and had a mayor and aldermen. But when the old charters were reſtored, it returned to its former ſtate, and is now governed by a bailiff and twelve burgeſſes, by whom the members to ſerve in parliament are elected; the church is well built, and more eſpecially the chancel, but its lofty ſpire was blown down in 1698, and has never been rebuilt: St. John the Baptiſt's chapel is now a free ſchool. The market is kept on Saturdays, and there are eight fairs, on the Monday ſeven-night after Epiphany, March 7, but if leap year, 6; May 6, Whitthurſday, July 10, September 4, October 2, and November 8, all for cattle.

Buckingham is a town of ſome antiquity, for when the Danes made their incurſions about the year 915, it was fortified with a rampire and turrets by Edward the Elder, yet it afterwards dwindled, being at the Norman conqueſt inconſiderable for by dooms-day book, it appears, that it paid but for one hide of land, and had only 26 burgeſſes in the time of Edward the Confeſſor. The caſtle abovementioned ſtood on a very high mount, but

but by whom it was built is uncertain. This part of Buckinghamſhire, is thought to have been the ſeat of action when *Aulus Plautius* commanded the Romans in their ſecond expedition into Britain, under the emperor Claudius. There was formerly in Buckingham, an old hoſpital dedicated to St. Lawrence, conſiſting of a rector or maſter, and ſeveral infirm brethren, and near the church, was a ſtately prebendal houſe, belonging to the church of Lincoln, which was endowed with lands of 1000l. per ann.

At the village of STOW, two miles to the north of Buckingham, earl Temple has a moſt noble ſeat, and the gardens, which are undoubtedly the moſt elegant of the kind in England, give ample teſtimony of the fine taſte of the late lord Cobham, ſo much celebrated by Mr. Pope, whoſe judgment will not generally be diſputed.

It is impoſſible to ſurvey theſe gardens, where nature and art ſeem vying which ſhall excel each other; and when brought to the arbitration of correct judgment, perhaps it is as impoſſible to decide which has the preference, without delight and admiration. Sir John Vanbrugh deſigned the two light pavilions of the Doric order, which, form the Southern entrance of the gardens, and the firſt ſtriking object that preſents itſelf, is an obeliſk near 70 feet high, deſigned for a *jet d'eau*, and placed in the centre of a large octogon piece of water. At a diſtance we diſcover two rivers, which at length unite and fall into the octogon in one ſtream: over one of them, is a Palladian bridge, from which you have a view of a gothic edifice dedicated to liberty, 70 feet high, on the ſummit of an hill; on the left is an Egyptian pyramid, from whence viſitors are conducted to the cold bath, where there is view of a natural caſcade, falling from the

the octogan before mentioned, in three diſtinct ſheets into a lake, whoſe bounds appear at a very remote diſtance. One of theſe ſheets paſſes thro' the arch of an artificial ruin, covered with evergreens. In taking a ſurvey of theſe ſtately gardens, the hermitage, built of rough ſtone, and ſituated in a riſing wood, on the banks of the lake; the ſtatues of Cain and Abel finely executed; the temple of Venus; the Belvidere, or Gibbs's building; the two pavilions; St. Auguſtine's cave; the Egyptian pyramid, 60 feet high; the ſtatues of Hercules and Antæus; the temple of Bacchus; the Saxon temple; Nelſon's ſeat; the equeſtrian ſtatue of George I. the ſtatue of his late majeſty; Dido's cave; the Rotunda; the ſtatue of the late queen; the ſleeping parlour; the witch-houſe; the temple of modern virtue, in ruins; the temple of ancient virtue, a compleat and beautiful rotunda of the Ionick order, with the ſtatues of Epaminondas, Lycurgus, Socrates and Homer; the Elyſian fields; all ſeen in different points of view, and ornamented by the paintings of the beſt maſters, with ſuitable mottoes and characteriſtic inſcriptions, fill the ſpectators with amazing delight, and vary his paſſions according to the different impreſſions they are calculated to inſpire. In the Elyſian fields is placed the temple of Britiſh worthies, an edifice diſpoſed into niches, filled with the buſtoes of Pope, Sir Thomas Greſham, Ignatius Jones, John Milton, William Shakeſpear, John Locke, Sir Iſaac Newton, Sir Francis Bacon, lord Verulam, king Alfred, Edward, the Black prince, queen Elizabeth, king William III. Sir Walter Raleigh, Sir Francis Drake, John Hampden, and Sir John Bernard, all but Pope and Sir John Bernard, with inſcriptions on their exalted characters, cannot fail of recalling

to the ſpectator all thoſe virtues and great qualities, for which they were admired, and their ſupereminent abilities in arts or arms. The ſhell bridge, and the Chineſe houſe, ſituated in the Chineſe manner, upon a large piece of water, a ſquare building with four lettices, covered with ſail cloth, and entered by a bridge decorated with Chineſe Vaſes, by its windows and roof, and cool ſituation, affords us a ſpecimen of the manner of living in hot countries. Within is the figure of a Chineſe lady a-ſleep; the houſe on the out-ſide is painted in the Chineſe taſte, and the inſide is India japan work. The next objects are the temple of contemplation; the grotto; the ladies temple; the Grecian temple; Capt. Grenville's monument, with a proper inſcription; a fluted column, inſcribed by the late viſcounteſs Cobham, to the memory of her huſband; the Gothic temple, a ſpacious edifice of red ſtone, terminated with towers and pinnacles, 70 feet high, placed on the ſummit of an hill: the windows are of glaſs, curiouſly ſtained, and the inſide of the doom characteriſtically decorated with the arms of his lordſhip's family, from their riſe to the preſent time, and round it are the ſtatues of the ſeven Saxon deities, which denominate the ſeven days of the week. The imperial cloſet, is a ſquare room, in which are painted, by Sleter, three of the beſt of the Roman emperors, each diſtinguiſhed by a memorable ſaying of his own, fixed over him. A grand terras walk, near 300 feet long, leads the ſpectator to the temple of Friendſhip, a well proportioned ſtructure, of the Doric order, with characteriſtic emblematical paintings, by the beſt hands. Here are the buſts of the late viſcount Cobham, and his illuſtrious friends, Frederick, prince of Wales; the earls of Weſtmorland, Cheſterfield

Cheſterfield, and Marchmont, lords Gower, and Bathurſt; Richard Grenville, now earl Temple, William Pitt and George Lyttelton, Eſq; now lord Lyttelton. The pebble alcove, a little grotto ornamented with pebbles; and Congreve's monument with an inſcription to his memory.

All theſe objects poſſeſs their ſeveral different beauties and proprieties, and ſtrike the beholder with ſuch impreſſions of grace and majeſty, as have the moſt delightful effect upon his fancy. He wanders here through the mazes of former times, there he is tranſported to far diſtant climes; anon he is roving through the Sylvan ſcene, ſurrounded with every rural deity, and then, by as quick a tranſition, is engaged in all the buſtle and hurry of life, hears the clang of arms, the voice of the ſtern legiſlator, and the tumult and uproar of populous cities. In fine, my lord Temple's gardens at Stow, will continue the admiration of foreigners, and the boaſt of England, as long as liberality of mind and real taſte adorn its natives.

CHITWOOD or CHETWOOD, is a village three miles ſouth by weſt of Buckingham, on the road to Oxford. Here was an hermitage with a chapel adjoining, founded by Robert de Chitwood, and dedicated to St. Stephen and St. Lawrence, martyrs. But Robert de Groſteſte, the great biſhop of Lincoln, converted it into a priory of canons regular of St. Auguſtine, and it was dedicated a-new to St. Mary and St. Nicholas, the ſite of this priory was afterwards in the firſt of Edward IV. given with the eſtate belonging to it, to the abbey of Nuttley; and the conventual church of Chetwood became parochial, yet there ſtill remained at this place, a cell of a canon or two from Nuttley. The liv-

ing

ing is now a donative in the deanery of Buckingham.

BITLESDON, or BIDLESTON, a village about ſix miles north-weſt of Buckingham, was an ancient ſeat and manor of Robert de Mapersſhall, who being found guilty of ſtealing one of the king's hounds, to ſave himſelf from being puniſhed, gave this eſtate to Jeffrey de Clinton, chamberlain to king Henry the Firſt, but he received it back again from the chamberlain, with a kinſwoman of his in marriage. However, in the civil wars in king Stephen's time, he loſt it again, and it being given to Robert earl of Leiceſter, he granted it to his high ſteward Ernald de Boſco, who gave ſome of the land to the Ciſterian monks of Gerondon, who founded an abbey here, before the year 1147, and dedicated it to St. Mary and St. Nicholas; it was at the diſſolution valued at 125 l. 4 s. 3 d. per ann.

About two miles to the north-eaſt of Bitleſton, in LUFFIELD, a ſmall village where there was a monaſtery, which, according to Camden, was entirely deſerted on account of the plague ſeizing ſome of the monks. It was founded by Robert earl of Leiceſter, for the ſouls of king William I. and his queen Matilda. It had ſeveral other benefactors, and pope Alexander III. granted it various privileges by a bull. Henry III. in the 56th year of his reign, granted to the prior and monks, free chiminage in the foreſt of Britlewade for five years enſuing, which implies, that this monaſtery continued longer than Camden ſeems to allow. The value is uncertain, but we know it was a cell to Weſtminſter-abbey, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

Luffield is partly in the county of Northampton, and partly in Bucks, it is taxed with Stow pariſh.

Leaving

Leaving this part of the county, and returning to the London road, which leads from Dunſtable to the northern part of Buckinghamſhire, we ſhall firſt proceed in that from Dunſtable, which runs a croſs this part of the county, to Stony-Stratford.

Here, on entering Buckinghamſhire, about a mile to the left of the road, you paſs by great Brickhill, and afterwards by Little Brickhill, to FENNY STRATFORD, which ſtands partly in Bletchley, and partly in Simpſon pariſh. It is full of good inns, is ſeven miles ſouth-eaſt of Stony-Stratford, and 49 miles from London. It is thought by ſome to be the Durocobrivæ of Antoninus, on account of its ſituation. This town has a market on Mondays, and four fairs, namely, April 19, July 18, October 10, and November 28, for cattle.

SNELLSHALL, is pleaſantly ſituated alſo among hills near Whaddon church, a little more than a mile weſt of Fenny-Stratford, and about four miles north of Winſlow. Ralph de Martel built here, before the tenth of Edward the Third, a ſmall monaſtery for black monks, dedicated to St. Leonard. The four bells that were in a turret belonging to the monaſtery, were removed to the church of Bradwell, on the largeſt of which was inſcribed *Vox Auguſtini ſonet in aure Dei.* The yearly value was 18 l. 1 s. 11 d.

At no great diſtance from this town, in NEWTON LONGEVILLE, where was a cell to the abbey of St. Faith, at Longueville in Normandy, to which it was given by Waltar Giffard, the ſecond earl of Buckingham, in the reign of Henry I. This was ſeized with other alien priories, but was by Henry the ſixth granted to New College, Oxford, which ſtill poſſeſſes it.

BLEACHLEY,

BEACHLEY, or BEACHLEY, is a village about a mile north-weſt of Fenny-Stratford, remarkable for an hoſpital, and a chapel erected by Sir George Crook, who endowed them liberally.

STONY-STRATFORD, is ſituated about ſeven miles to the weſtward of Fenny-Stratford, ſix miles weſt by ſouth of Newport-Pagnel, eight miles weſt by north of Buckingham, 60 weſt by ſouth of Cambridge, 19 weſt of Dunſtable, 39 ſouth-eaſt of Coventry, and 53 north-weſt of London. It is a well known and much frequented town, containing two pariſh churches. The Roman military way called Watlington ſtreet paſſes through it, and the town is generally ſuppoſed to have been a Roman ſtation, being ſituated on a river, over which it has a ſtone bridge, leading towards Towceſter, and many coins have been found here. Mr. Camden imagined it to be the Lactodorum of Antoninus, though ſome have ſuppoſed this ſtation to have been at Towceſter. On May 6, 1742, there was a dreadful fire at this place, which conſumed 150 houſes. Its chief manufacture is bone lace and being ſituated on the great road to Cheſter, it is well accommodated with inns. The market is held on Fridays, and it has four fairs, viz. on April 20, Auguſt 2, October 10, and November 12, all for cattle. Moſt of the houſes in this town are built of ſtone, dug in a neighbouring quarry, and in the principal ſtreet, king Edward I. erected a croſs in memory of his queen Eleanor, now totally demoliſhed. There was at this place an hoſpital before the year 1240, ſuppoſed to have been dedicated to St. John, and to have been ſituated on the cauſeway, leading to the bridge.

PASHAM,

PASHAM, near Stony-Stratford, is ſo called from being a paſs or ford over the river, and is thought to be the ſame which Edward the Elder maintained againſt the Danes, while he fortified Towceſter. It is now only remarkable for the bone lace manufacture, which is greatly improved there, as well as in the neighbouring villages.

At BRADWELL, about two miles from Stony-Stratford, was a monaſtery of black monks, dedicated to St. Mary, and founded by Manefelmus or Meinfelin, baron of Wolverton in the time of king Stephen. It was at firſt a cell to Luffield abovementioned, but afterwards ſeperately endowed. This was among other ſmall monaſteries granted to cardinal Wolſey, and was valued at the diſſolution at 53l. 11s 2d. per ann.

From Woburn in Bedfordſhire, a road leads northward to NEWPORT-PAGNEL, which is 16 miles north of Ayleſbury, and 51 from London. This is a pretty large populous town, much reſorted to on account of the trade in bone-lace, of which it may be called the ſtaple town. It is ſeated on the river Ouſe, and a branch thereof, over which are two bridges; but it is no borough nor corporation, though it is larger than many places that are. The market is on Saturdays, and the fairs are on April 22, June 22, October 22, and December 22, all for cattle. This town takes its name from its ancient lord Fulk Paganel. It has an old church, and two meeting houſes, and the ſtreets are well paved. There were ſeveral hoſpitals at Newport particularly one founded before the year 1240, and dedicated to St Margaret; and another founded in the year 1240, called the new hoſpital. There was beſides, a third which ſtill ſubſiſts. It was founded about the ninth year of Edward I. by John

John de Somery, and dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, and St. John the Evangeliſt; being valued at 61. 6s. 8d. a year. It was refounded by Ann, queen to James the Firſt, for three poor men, and as many women above fifty years of age. It now goes by the name of the queen's hoſpital, and the vicar of the pariſh for the time being, is maſter. There was formerly a caſtle here, belonging to the barons Somers of Dudley, lords of this place.

CRAWLEY, or CROWLEY, near Newport-Pagnel. At this place was a monaſtery before the reign of Edward the Confeſſor, which continued till ſome time after the conqueſt, and is mentioned in dooms-day book.

TICKFORD, near Newport-Pagnel, had a cell of Cluniac monks, dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin, and ſubordinate to the abbey of Marmonſtier, at Tours in France. This priory was founded by Fulk Paganel, in the time of William Rufus, who endowed it with lands and a court leet. Theſe privileges were confirmed by Henry the Second; and Edward the Second gave them the additional allowance of having a pillory and a tumbril for puniſhing malefactors. Edward the Third, when at war with France, ſeized it among other alien priories, but it was reſtored to the Church by Henry the Fourth, and made ſubject to the priory of the Holy Trinity at York. In the ſeventeenth year of Henry the Eighth, it was diſſolved, and with ſeveral other ſmall monaſteries, granted to cardinal Wolſey, towards defraying the expences of building and endowing his two colleges at Oxford and Ipſwich. Its value was then 126l. 17s. per ann. When the cardinal fell into diſgrace, it was granted to to King's College, Oxford, but was afterwards

reſumed

reſumed, and ſold by James the Firſt to one doctor Atkins, a phyſician.

HANSLOPE is a village, five miles north weſt of Newport-Pagnel, remarkable for its lofty ſpire ſteeple, which may be ſeen at a great diſtance by travellers. It has one fair, on Holy Thurſday, for cattle.

OULNEY, is about ſix miles north of Newport-Pagnel, and 54 from London. It was formerly noted for the manufacture of bone-lace, carried on there, and in its neighbourhood, of which there is now but little made, in compariſon of what there formerly was. It is at this time time chiefly remarkable for its church, which has a fine ſpire, there being (as it is ſaid) but one other church with a ſpire in the whole county. This town is ſeated on the river Ouſe. On September 17, 1763, an eel was taken out of the mill dam, which weighed thirteen pounds three ounces, and ſold on the ſpot for thirteen ſhillings. Oulney has a market on Mondays, and two fairs, namely, on Eaſter Monday, and June 29, both for cattle.

LAVANDEN, or LAUNDON, is a village at the northern extremity of the county, two miles beyond Oulney. There was at this place a monaſtery for Præmonſtratenſian canons, founded by John de Bidun, in the time of Henry the Second, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. John the Baptiſt, it had ſeveral other benefactors, and all its endowments were confirmed by Henry the Third. At the diſſolution, its annual income amounted to 79 l. 13 s. 8 d. At this village is an annual fair held on the Tueſday before Eaſter.

RAVENSTON, or RAUNSTON, about a mile weſt of Oulney, had a ſmall monaſtery of black-canons, dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin, which was built and endowed by king Henry the Third.

About

about the 39th year of his reign. This was amongſt others given to cardinal Wolſey, and was valued at 57 l. 15 s. per ann.

The ancient inhabitants of this county, were called *Cattieuchlani*, when the Romans firſt invaded this iſland. Hertfordſhire and Bedfordſhire had the ſame inhabitants, which Camden thinks were the ancient *Caſſii*, becauſe there are ſome remains of this name in Hertfordſhire, where there is Caſho hundred and Caſhobury. Likewiſe king *Caſſibelin* or *Caſſivilaun* plainly derives his name from being king of the *Caſſii*, a warlike people, who gave great proof of their courage in conquering part of the *Dobuni*, their weſtern enemies. When Cæſar landed, the Britons unanimouſly choſe Caſſibilin their king, to be generaliſſimo againſt the Romans. After the Romans were driven back into Gaul, Caſſibilin fell upon the Trinobantes, who had favoured the Cæſar's attempt, killed their king, and forced his ſon to fly into Gaul for protection.

The Romans had now a pretence for invading Britain a ſecond time; becauſe the people entered into a confederacy with Mardubratius the ſon of the Oſtrobantine king. Caſſibilin courageouſly oppoſed their landing; but being often repulſed, and at laſt beſieged in his own town, he was under a neceſſity for ſueing for a peace, which he eaſily obtained, upon condition that *Mandubratius* ſhould be reinſtated in his kingdom, and upon his giving hoſtages, to ſecure his future ſubmiſſion; beſides which, he was to pay a tribute to the Roman treaſury. After this, Cæſar left the kingdom, and the kings continued to enjoy their former rights, till Aulus, in the reign of Claudius Cæſar, brought them under the ſubjection of the emperors of Rome.

While the Britons continued under their foreign juriſdiction, there were various revolutions; till at length, on account of the inteſtine iviſions of the Romans, their forces were called home, and the inhabitants left to themſelves. After this they were moleſted by the Picts and Scots; inſomuch that they were obliged to call in the Saxons for their defence, who finding the Britons weak, brought over ſuch numbers of their countrymen, that in a few years they became maſters of the country, or at leaſt ſo far as the Roman juriſdiction extended.

The Saxons afterwards divided South Britain into ſeven kingdoms; and this county was included in that of Mercia. It received the name of Buckingham from them, as is noticed above.

We ſhall ſubjoin ſome account of a few remarkable perſons, beſides thoſe already mentioned, who were alſo natives of this county.

Richard Cox, a learned biſhop in the ſixteenth century, was born at Whaddon, of mean parentage, in the year 1499. After having gone through the uſual circle of a learned education at Cambridge, he became fellow of king's college in that Univerſity, in the year 1519. His eminence here, procured him the honour of being one of thoſe ſcholars, pitched upon by Cardinal Wolſey, to fill up his new foundation at Oxford. In the latter Univerſity he was looked upon as one of the greateſt ſcholars of his time, and his poetical compoſitions were held in the higheſt eſteem: however his attachment to the opinions of Luther, who at that time began the reformation, procured him the diſpleaſure of the ruling powers, and he was accordingly put into priſon. But from this confinement he was releaſed, by the intereſt of archbiſhop Cranmer, and afterwards was carried through a variety of promotions. Upon the acceſſion

acceſſion of queen Mary, he was again put into priſon, but finding an opportunity to eſcape, he withdrew to Straſburgh, in Germany.

During his reſidence in that country, he adhered to the reformed liturgy of the church of England, in oppoſition to the other exiles, who had ſet up a new liturgy of their own.

After the death of queen Mary, he returned to England, and was one of thoſe divines who were appointed to reviſe the liturgy. He was ſoon after made biſhop of Ely, which promotion he enjoyed for above twenty-one years. His enemies at court, often ſtrove to injure him with the queen, and he as often deſired to reſign his biſhoprick; ſo that at length the forms of reſignation were actually drawn up, but as no divine of note could be found that would accept of his dignities, he enjoyed them till his death, which happened on the 22d of July, 1581, in the 82d year of his age.

Dr. Walter Haddon, an eminent ſcholar of the fifteenth century, was deſcended from a good family in this county, and born in the year 1516. He was educated at Eaton ſchool, and from thence elected to King's college in Cambridge, where he chiefly diſtinguiſhed himſelf by writing a fine Latin ſtyle, which he attained by a conſtant reading of Cicero. He alſo ſtudied the civil law, of which he became a doctor, and read lectures thereon. In 1550, he was made profeſſor in this ſcience, and of rhetoric, as alſo orator of the univerſity. During the reign of king Edward VI. he was one of the moſt illuſtrious promoters of the reformation, and therefore upon the deprivation of biſhop Gardner, was thought a proper perſon to ſucceed him in the maſterſhip of Trinity hall. In September 1552, through the earneſt recommendation of the court, though not

qualified according to the ſtatutes, he was choſen preſident of Magdalen college, in Oxford, but upon the acceſſion of queen Mary, he quitted his preferments for fear of more fatal conſequences, and kept himſelf concealed during her reign. On the acceſſion of queen Elizabeth, he was ordered to repair to her majeſty, at Hatfield, in Herefordſhire, and was ſoon after conſtituted by her, maſter of the court of requeſts. In the royal viſitation of the univerſity of Cambridge, performed in the beginning of Elizabeth's reign, he was one of her majeſty's commiſſioners. In 1566, he was one of the three agents, ſent to Bruges to reſtore commerce between England and the Netherlands, upon the ancient terms. He died in January, 1571, and was buried in Chriſt-church, London. He was engaged with Sir John Cheke, in drawing up a code of eccleſiaſtical law; and publiſhed in 1563, a letter in anſwer to the biſhop Oſſorius's invective againſt queen Elizabeth. The beſt of his works were collected and publiſhed in 1567, under the title of *Lucubrations.*

Richard Montague, a learned divine and philologiſt of the laſt century, was born about the year 1578, at Dorney, in this county, and educated at Eaton ſchool, and King's college in Cambridge. His firſt preferment in the church was the living of Wotton Courtney, in Somerſetſhire, where he roſe gradually, to the rectory of Stamford Rivers, in Eſſex, the deanery of Hereford, the archdeaconry of the ſame church, the biſhoprick of Chicheſter, and laſt of all to that of Norwich, to which he was tranſlated in 1638. During his reſidence at Stamford Rivers, ſome Romaniſts attempted to convert one of his pariſhioners. Of this he was no ſooner informed, than he endeavoured, in the firſt place, to procure an interview

interview with them; but finding that impoſſible, he left for them, by way of challenge, three propoſitions, in defence of the proteſtant religion. In return to theſe, about eighteen months after, he received a piece, intitled, *A Gagg for the New Goſpel*, to which he wrote an anſwer; but this giving offence to ſome puretanical divines, he compoſed another work, intitled *Appello Cæſarem*. The exceptions taken to this ſecond performance, were ſtill more conſiderable. He was called to an account for it, before the houſe of commons; but though put, by that means, to ſome trouble and expence, he was not ſubjected to any legal puniſhment. His advancement to the ſee of Chicheſter was attended with a remarkable circumſtance. When he came to Bow church, in order to be confirmed, and proclamation was made in the uſual form, a long liſt of objections was given in by one Jones, a ſtationer; but theſe being frivolous, and preſented, beſides, in an irregular manner, no regard was paid to them by the judge. Biſhop Montague died in April, 1641; and his corpſe was interred in the cathedral of Norwich. Beſides the works already mentioned, he wrote *Diatribæ upon the firſt part of Mr. Lelden's hiſtory of Tythes*; *Originum Eccleſiaſticarum Apparatus*; *Originum Eccleſiaſticarum, tomus primus, et pars poſterior*; and *the Acts and Monuments of the Church, before Chriſt incarnate*.

Dr. George Bate, an eminent phyſician, was born at Maids Morton, in the year 1608. At fourteen he became one of the clerks of New college, in Oxford; from thence he was removed to Queen's college, and afterwards to St. Edmund's hall. When he had taken the degree of bachelor, and maſter of arts, he entered on the phyſic line, and having taken the firſt degree in that faculty, in 1629, he obtained a licenſe, and for ſome years

practiſed in, and about Oxford. His practice lay chiefly among the Puritans, who at that time conſidered him as one of their party. In 1637, he graduated as doctor of phyſic, and became eminent in his profeſſion, ſo that when king Charles kept his court at Oxford, he was principal phyſician. When the king's affairs declined, Dr. Bate removed to London, where he became phyſician to the Charter-houſe, fellow of the college of phyſicians, and afterwards principal phyſician to Oliver Cromwell. Upon the reſtoration, he once more recovered the favour of the governing party, and was made principal phyſician to the king, and fellow of the royal ſociety; this we are told was owing to a report raiſed on purpoſe by his friends, intimating that he had poiſoned the Protector. Dr. Bate wrote in latin, an account of the late commotions in England, and ſome other pieces. He died at his houſe in Hatton Garden, and was buried at Kingſton upon Thames, in Surry.

Martin Liſter, an eminent phyſician and naturaliſt of the ſeventeenth century, was born in the year 1638, in this county, and educated under his great uncle Sir Matthew Liſter, and afterwards at St. John's college, in Cambridge, of which he became a fellow. Having completed his education by travelling into France, he ſettled at York, and practiſed phyſic in that city; removing ſome time after to the capital of the kingdom, he continued to follow the ſame profeſſion, and was choſen a fellow of the college of phyſicians. In 1698, he attended the earl of Portland in his embaſſy from king William the Third, to the coaſt of France; and at his return to England, publiſhed an account of his journey, which deſcending, as was thought, to too minute and trifling circumſtances, was ſmartly ridiculed by Dr. William

William King, in his *Journey through London*. He was afterwards phyſician to her majeſty queen Anne; and having attained to the advanced age of 74, died on the 17th of February, 1712. Beſides the work already mentioned, he wrote *a Hiſtory of Shell Fiſh*, *a Diſſertation on medicinal Springs*, and ſome other tracts.

Francis Atterbury, biſhop of Rocheſter, ſon of Dr. Lewis Atterbury, was born, March the 6th 1662, at Middleton, in this county, educated at Weſtminſter ſchool, and thence elected to Chriſt-church, in Oxford; where he diſtinguiſhed himſelf early, by his fine genius and turn for polite literature. At the age of 25, he took up the pen in defence of Luther, who had been attacked by the papiſts, and whom Mr. Atterbury vindicated with great force of reaſoning. About the ſame time he is ſuppoſed to have had a ſhare in the famous controverſy, between Mr. Boyle and Dr. Bentley, concerning the genuineneſs of Phalaris's epiſtles. His father dying in 1693, he would fain have ſucceeded him in the rectory of Milton; and with this view he applied to the earl of Nottingham; but meeting with a repulſe from that nobleman, he left the univerſity, and came up to London, where he ſoon rendered himſelf ſo noted for his eloquence, that he became chaplain to king William and queen Mary, and was elected preacher at Bridewell, and lecturer of St. Bride's. In 1694, he engaged in a diſpute with the celebrated Dr. Hoadly, afterwards biſhop of Wincheſter, about ſome diſputable points in religion; but the moſt important controverſy, in which he was ever embarked, was that which commenced in 1700, concerning the rights, powers, and privileges of the convocation. The grand queſtion was, whether the convocation had a right to ſit and determine points of diſcipline,

without the concurrence of the ſovereign. Dr. Wake aſſerted the negative: Mr. Atterbury maintained the affirmative; and for his ſervices to the church on this occaſion, he received the thanks of the lower houſe of convocation, and was preſented, by the univerſity of Oxford, with the degree of doctor in divinity. Upon the acceſſion of queen Anne, he was appointed one of her majeſty's chaplains, and dean of Carliſle. In 1710, he is ſaid to have aſſiſted the famous Dr. Sacheverell, in drawing up his anſwer to the charge brought againſt him. The ſame year he was choſen prolocutor of the lower houſe of convocation, and had the chief direction of affairs in that houſe. In 1712, he was promoted to the deanery of Chriſt-church, and in the courſe of the enſuing year was made biſhop of Rocheſter, and dean of Weſtminſter. In this laſt capacity, he officiated at the coronation of king George I. but upon his offering to preſent his majeſty with the chair of ſtate and royal canopy, which were his perquiſites as dean, the offer was rejected, and that too with ſome marks of diſlike to his perſon. This, co-operating with his former prejudices, threw him into the arms of the oppoſition, and he continued for the future, to combat with great vehemence, all the meaſures adopted by the government. Thus he proceeded till 1722, when the miniſtry, thinking they had ſufficient proof to convict him of high treaſon, ſent him priſoner to the tower; and a bill was brought in by the commons, for inflicting pains and penalties upon him. The bill paſſed the lower houſe without any difficulty: it was carried in the upper by a majority of 83 to 43; and having received the royal aſſent, the biſhop was condemned to perpetual baniſhment. To mitigate, however, the ſeverity of the ſentence, his daughter was permitted to attend him in his exile,

exile, and his ſon-in-law, to correſpond with him by letter. In June 1723, he embarked on board a man of war, and landed at Calais, where being informed, that lord Bolingbroke, who had juſt obtained his pardon, was arrived on his return to England, he ſaid pleaſantly, "then I am exchanged." He ſoftened the rigours of exile by ſtudy, and the converſation of learned men; and died at Paris, February the 15th 1731. His body, being brought over to England, was interred in Weſtminſter Abbey. His works are extant, in four volumes octavo; and whoever peruſes them with any degree of taſte, will allow, that he is one of the moſt elegant writers in the Engliſh language.

CAERMARTHENSHIRE.

THIS county, which is in South-Wales, takes its name from its principal town, Caermarthen, or as the Welch call it Kaer Vyrdhin. It is a maritime county, and is bounded by Cardiganſhire on the North, by St. George's channel and the Severn ſea on the ſouth; by Brecknockſhire and Glamorganſhire on the eaſt, and by Pembrokeſhire on the weſt. It extends in length about 35 miles, is 20 miles broad, and 102 in circumference. Its air is eſteemed milder and wholeſomer than that of moſt of the neighbouring counties, and the ſoil being leſs rocky and mountainous, is more fruitful in corn and graſs; it produces coals and lime in great plenty, has wood enough, and is well watered. The chief rivers, are the Towy, the Cothy, and the Tave. The Towy, which is a conſiderable river, riſes in Cardiganſhire, enters this county at the north-eaſt ſide, and running ſouth-ſouth-weſt, falls into the Engliſh channel about eight miles below Caermarthen. The Cothy riſes on the north ſide of this county, and runs moſtly in a ſouthern courſe, till it joins the Towy about five miles above Caermarthen. The Tave, or Teivy, riſes in Cardiganſhire, and ſoon after becomes the boundary betwixt that county and Caermarthenſhire, the north-weſt ſide of which it waters, till joined by the Keach, after which it parts this county from Pembrokeſhire. Its leſs remarkable rivers, are the Dulas, the Brane,

Brane, the Guendrathvawr, the Cowen, the Towa, and the Amond.

Caermarthenſhire feeds vaſt numbers of good cattle, and abounds with all the neceſſaries of life. Fowl and fiſh are in great plenty, particularly ſalmon, for which the river Towy is famous.

This county is divided into ſix hundreds, and contains eight market towns; it lies in the province of Canterbury and dioceſe of St. David's; has 87 pariſhes, 2765 houſes, and about 17000 inhabitants, but only ſends two members to parliament, one for the county and one for the town of Caermarthen.

On entering this county from Swanzey in Glamorganſhire, by the moſt ſouthern road, you paſs by Llangenock, which ſtands about two miles out of the road to the north, and is a village eighteen miles to the ſouth-eaſt of Caermarthen, and three eaſt of Llanelly. It has an annual fair on the 23d of October, for horned cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware.

Llanelly, or Llanelthy, is a town about half a mile in length, 32 miles eaſt of Haverford-Weſt, and 214 weſt of London: it is ſeated between a creek of the ſea, and Dulas river, which enables it to carry on a conſiderable trade in coals; it has a market on Thurſdays, well ſupplied with corn, cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware.

At Bachanis, or Machunnis, an iſland not far from Llannely, about the year 513, St. Pizo founded a monaſtery, of which he was himſelf the firſt abbot.

From Llannelly a road leads north-weſt to Kydweli, which is eight miles ſouth-eaſt of Caermarthen, 47 eaſt of St. David's, eight weſt of Llannelly, and 222 from London. Kydweli or Kydwelly, is by ſome thought to be the place

where

where a great battle was fought anno 458, between Ambroſius Aurelianus, with his Armoricans, and the Britons, who took part with Vortigern, after he had cloſely connected himſelf with the Saxons, but which ſide gained the victory, is not known. The battle is mentioned by Bede, who calls the place *Catgwaloph*. Theſe inteſtine wars laſted till the year 465, and the Britons were ſo harraſſed, that many of them abandoned their native country, and one party in particular, going on board a galley, ſailed to Germany, and rowing up the Rhine, landed at Catwich near Leyden, where they ſettled by the ſea-ſide in an old Roman camp, to which they gave the name of Brittenburge. But to return to Kydwelly, it was poſſeſſed for ſome time by the ſons of Keianus, a Scot, till they were driven away by Kynedhav, a Britiſh prince. Maurice of London then invaded theſe territories, and after a long and tedious war, made himſelf maſter of the old town of Kydwelly, which he fortified with walls and a caſtle now decayed, being deſerted by the inhabitants, who, tempted by the convenience of an harbour, paſſed the river, and built the new Kydwelly. When Maurice abovementioned invaded this diſtrict, Gwenlhian, the wife of prince Gryffith, a woman of invincible courage, endeavouring to reſtore her huſband's declining ſtate, entered the field and encountered him, where ſhe was ſlain with her ſon Morgan and ſeveral other noblemen. This town is ſeated on a vaſt bay, called Tenby, and is about four furlongs in length. It was formerly noted for the cloathing trade, as it is now for its fiſhery. It is governed by a mayor, and has two good markets on Tueſdays and Saturdays. It has alſo four fairs, on May 24, July 22, and October 29, for cows, calves, cattle, and pedlars-ware. About the

year 1130, a priory of Benedictine monks, ſubordinate, to the monaſtery of Sherbourne in Dorſetſhire, was founded by Roger biſhop of Saliſbury; it was dedicated to St. Mary and valued upon the diſſolution at 38l. per ann. Maurice of London, one of the twelve knights that came into Glamorganſhire with Robert Fitz Hamon, and had for his ſhare, the caſtle and manor of Ogmore; after a tedious war, as is before noted, became maſter of Kydwelly and rebuilt the caſtle, In the year 1093. Kadogan ap Blethyn, who then ruled South-Wales, deſtroyed this, and all the caſtles except two, that were in the land of Cadogan and Divet. In the year 1190, Rees, prince of South-Wales, rebuilt this caſtle, and Rees ſon of Gruffyth ap Rees demoliſhed it; but it was afterwards built again, and underwent various revolutions till it fell to the crown. It was granted by Henry the Seventh, to Sir Rice ap Thomas knight of the garter; but being forfeited by his grandſon Rice Griffith, it was granted to Richard Vaughan, earl of Carbery, lord preſident of Wales. The ruins of this caſtle are very large and magnificent, and plainly ſhew what it has formerly been.

PENNYBED, is a village three miles nearly ſouth from Kydwelly, cloſe to the marſh, it has only one fair, which is on December five, for cattle, tallow, and pedlars ware, and at a place called *Three Lords*, are two fairs, viz. on Aſcenſion day, and November 12, for cattle, ſheep, and pedlars ware.

From hence a road extends north-eaſt to Caermarthen, which is ſituated 27 miles ſouth-weſt of Llanimdawfry, and 206 weſt of London.

CAERMATHEN, called by the Britons Kaer-Vyrdhin, is a place of great antiquity; famous among

among other things for the birth of the wife *Merlin*, about the year 480. His true name was *Merdhin Emerys*. All the monkish writers that take notice of him, make him either a prophet, or a magician, but Mr. Lhyd, a judicious author, informs us, he was a man of extraordinary learning and prudence, considering the time in which he lived; and that many fables were invented of him by the vulgar, because he had some skill in the mathematicks; these fables were afterwards put into writing, and thus handed down to posterity.

Carmarthen, is the capital of the county, and is called by Ptolomy Maridunum, but by Antoninus Muridunum, both evident corruptions of the old British name abovementioned, for it was very customary with the Romans to substitute on some occasions, the letter M, for the letter V. It is seated on a rising North bank, of the fine river Towy, or Tobius, over which there is an handsome stone bridge; the river is navigable to the town for vessels of 100 ton; and here is a convenient key for them to load and unload their merchandize. It is plentifully supplied with salmon and other fish, and with all other provisions at an easy rate. The town is large, well built, very populous, and is much resorted to by the neighbouring gentry, who have houses in which they spend the winter months. It was formerly well fortified, as may be seen by the present remains of the old walls, and the ruins of a very strong castle, of which, together with the town, a fine view is given in the annexed copper plate.

Soon after the Normans entered Wales, this town fell into their hands, and for a long time encountered with many difficulties, it having been often besieged, and twice burnt, first by Griffyth ap Rees or Rhyr, and then by Rhys the

said

The South View of Caermarthen Caſtle *and* Town.

Vol. I. pag. 82.

ſaid Griffyth's brother; but the walls and caſtle being afterwards repaired by Gilbert, earl of Clare, it was freed from thoſe misfortunes. This place was formerly reckonced the capital of all Wales, and the Ancient Britons made it the ſeat their parliaments, or aſſemblies of wiſe men. When the eldeſt ſons of our kings became princes of Wales, they here fixt their chancery and exchequer for the ſouth part of their principality, which continued till the juriſdiction of the court and marches of Wales were taken away. The people of this town are reckoned the wealthieſt and moſt polite in all Wales, and being remarkably induſtrious, the inhabitants have of late carried on a conſiderable trade, and are in a flouriſhing condition. It has now but one church, dedicated to St. Peter, which is a very large one; though it had formerly a chapel, called the Rood church, dedicated to St. Mary, ſtanding where is now St. Mary's ſtreet; and one called the king's free chapel, in the caſtle. At the eaſt end of the town, a priory for ſix black canons was erected to the honour of St. John the Evangeliſt, before 1148, of which the ruins are ſtill viſible. There was alſo a houſe of grey fryars.

Carmarthen is a town and county incoporated, and is governed by a mayor and two ſheriffs, ſixteen aldermen, cloathed on ſolemn occaſions in ſcarlet, a town-clerk, a ſword-bearer, and two ſerjeants at mace. They had a new charter granted them, with ſome alterations, in 1765. It has three markets, on Wedneſdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, and ſix fairs, on June 3, July 10, Auguſt 12, September 9, October 9, and November 14 for cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware.

Lewis Bayly, a wealthy prelate of the ſeventeenth century, and author of the celebrated book, called *The Practice of Piety*, was born in this

this town, and educated at Oxford; but in what college is uncertain. It only appears that he was admitted to the reading of the ſentences in 1611; at which time he was miniſter of Eveſham in Worceſterſhire, chaplain to prince Henry, and rector of St. Matthew in Friday ſtreet, London. Being an excellent preacher, he was appointed one of the chaplains to king James I. who in 1716, promoted him to the ſee of Bangor. In 1621, he was committed priſoner to the fleet; but for what crime is doubtful; unleſs, perhaps it was for ſome ſhare he had in prince Charles's match with the Infanta of Spain. He died in 1632, and was buried in the church of Bangor.

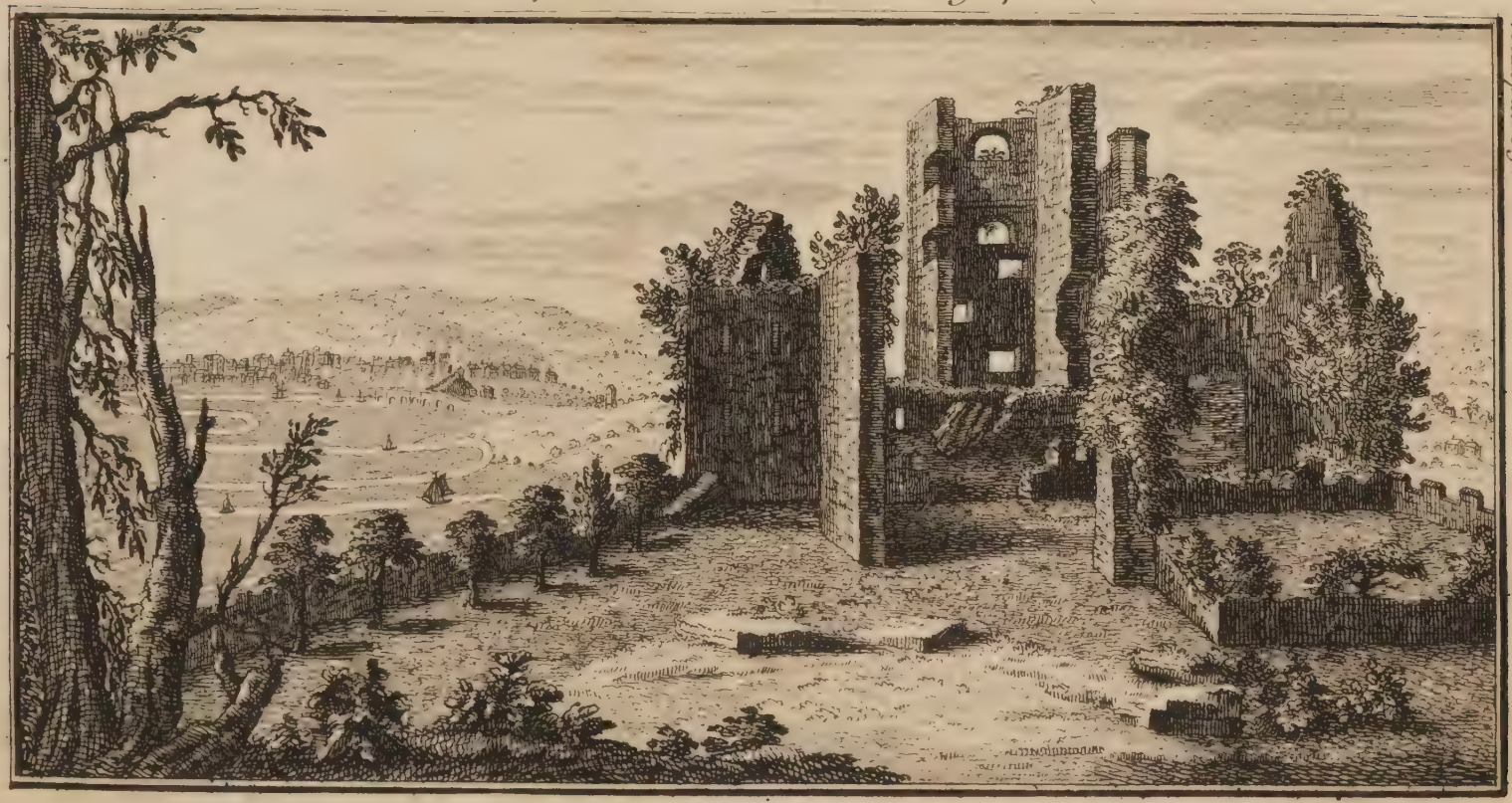
ABERGWILLY, is a village near two miles to the eaſt of Carmarthen, and is ſo called from its being near the place where the river Gwilly falls into the Towy. There are two fairs held here on October 2, and on November 27, for cattle, horſes and pedlars ware. At this place the church dedicated to St. Maurice, was made collegiate, by Thomas Beck, biſhop of St. David's, in the year 1287, for twenty-two prebendaries, four prieſts, four Choriſters and two Clerks. Here afterwards were a precentor, a chancellor, and a treaſurer; and its revenue, at the diſſolution, was valued at 42l. per annum.

At DRUSLLWYN a village about ten miles Eaſt of Caermarhen on the river Towy, are two fairs held annually, viz. on July 1. and October 5. for cattle, horſes, and ſheep; there was formerly a caſtle belonging to this place, which was ſituated oppoſite to it on the north ſide of the river.

At *Fairbach* there is one fair on November 22, for cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware. At *Llanedy*, 1 miles eaſt ſouth eaſt of Caermarthen, there is one fair on November 8, for cattle, horſes,

and

The West View of Green Caſtle *in the County of* Caermarthen.



Vol.I. pa.185.

and pedlars ware. At *Llandibea*, a village five miles ſouth of *Llandilavawr*, there is a fair on Whit-Wedneſday for cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware. At *Langindairne*, a village ſix miles ſouth eaſt of Caernarvon, there is one fair on Auguſt five, for cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware. At *Langweng*, a village ſix miles ſouth weſt of Carmarthen, is a fair the Monday before Whit-Sunday, for cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware. *Llamon*, is a village twelve miles eaſt by ſouth of Carmarthen, and has one fair on December ten, for cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware.

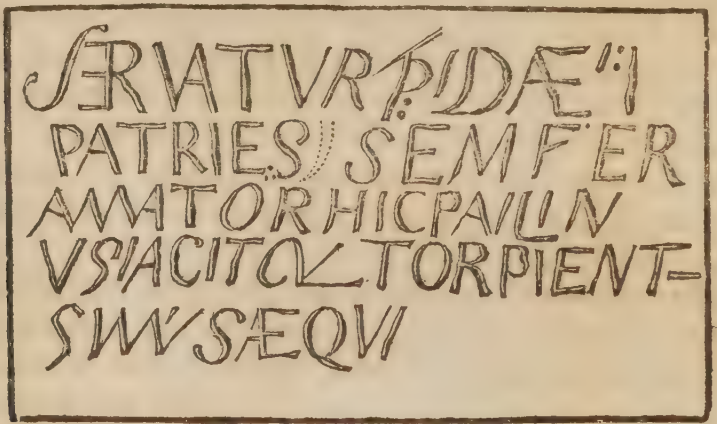
At *Tallagh* or *Tylo*, about ſix miles to the ſouth of Carmarthen, there was a premonſtratienſian abby, founded by Rhees, the ſon of Gryffith, prince of South-Wales before the year 1197; it was dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. John the Baptiſt, and valued at the diſſolution at 136l. 9 s. 7 d. per ann.

About two miles ſouth-weſt of Caermarthen, on a lofty ſituation, commanding an extenſive proſpect of the river Towy, ſtands Green Caſtle, of which an engraved view is given with this work. It is alſo called Caſtle-Mole, and is ſuppoſed to be that which is called by Dr. Powel, in his continuation of Lloyd's hiſtory of Cambria, Humfrey's Caſtle. It is ſaid to be one of thoſe built by Uchtred, prince of Merionethſhire, in 1138.

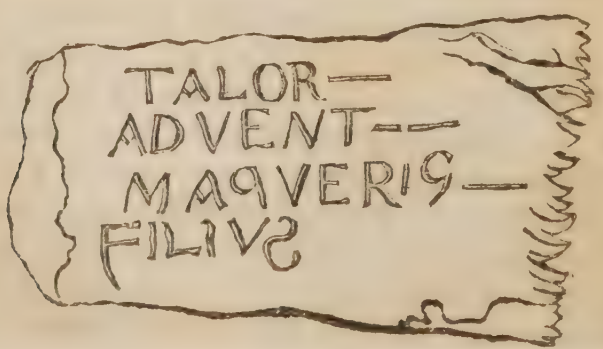
To the eaſt of Caermarthen, lies CANTREBYCHAN, which ſignifies the leſſer hundred. In it are the ruins of Kaſtelh-Karreg, once a large fort, ſituated upon a ſteep and almoſt inacceſſible mountain, near which are ſome vaſt caverns, by many ſuppoſed to have been copper mines wrought by the Romans. The place where the caverns are, is called Kaio, and has two fairs, nameon the 21ſt of Auguſt, and the 6th of October, for black cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware.

The only natural curioſity in the county is to be found at Kaſtelh-Karreg, which is a fountain or ſpring, that conſtantly ebbs and flows twice in twenty-four hours.

In the pariſh of KAIO, were found two ſepulchral ſtone monuments, at a place called Pant y Polion, near Kaſtelh-Karreg. One of theſe, we are informed by the learned annotator on Camden, lies flat on the ground, and is placed croſs a gutter. The inſcription on it is read as follows: *Servator Fidei Patriæque Semper Amator, hic Paulinus Jacet Cultor Pientiſſimus Æqui.*



This being the monument of one Paulinus, undoubtedly occaſioned the place to be called Pant y Polion. The other inſcribed ſtone, which ſeems to be of a later date, is about a yard in heighth, and pitched on one end. The inſcription is to be read downwards. A cut of this monument is alſo annexed.



On

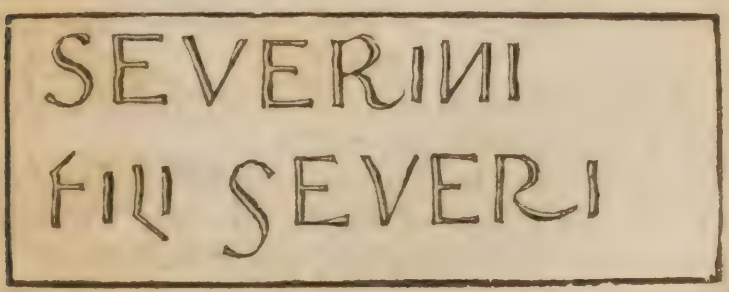
The North East View of Llanfrephan Caſtle *in the County of* Caermarthen

Vol. I. pa. 287.

On the north of Caermarthen is extended CANTRENAWR, or the great hundred, which was formerly a retiring place of the Britons, it being very woody and rocky, and full of uncouth ways on account of the winding of the hills. To the ſouth of the ſame town ſtood the caſtle of Laugharn already mentioned; and alſo on the oppoſite point, that of Llanfrephan, on the rocks of the ſea; this laſt is in a great meaſure ſtanding, and is ſeated on an high hill at the mouth of the river Towy, commanding the entrance thereof. It was built by the ſons of Uchtred, prince of Merionethſhire, in the year 1138. It was in poſſeſſion afterwards of the Flemings and Normans, who inhabited the counties of Pembroke and Caermarthen; but Ladelh, ſon of Gryffith ap Rhys, prince of South-Wales, took it from them in the year 1145, and kept it with a few men againſt all the powers they could raiſe. It has ſince undergone many revolutions, till it fell to the crown. We have annexed a plate of this once noble edifice.

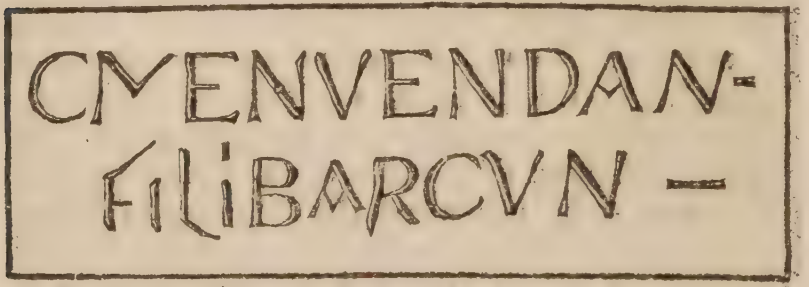
There is a rude ſtone pillar about ſix feet high, and a foot and an half broad, erected near the highway, in the pariſh of *Llan Newydh*, or or Llanegwad, not far from Caermarthen. On it is inſcribed in barbarous characters, *Severinini filii Severi.*

We have annexed a cut of it, that the form of the letters may be better ſeen.

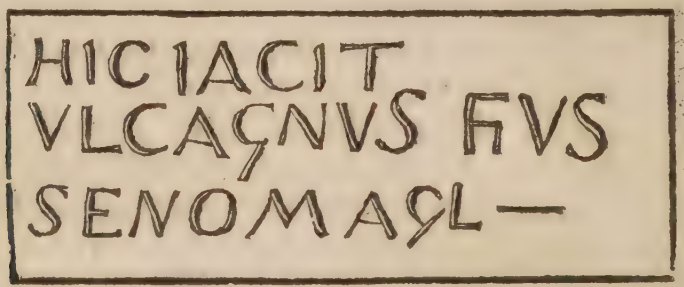


In

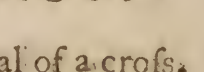
In the parish of *Hen-Lhan-Amgoed*, situated to the N. E. of Kilmaen-Lhwyd, on the western borders of the county, in a field belonging to Parkeu, is another monument nearly resembling that last mentioned; this lies flat on the ground, but probably once stood upright; if so the inscription should be read downwards as follows (Sepulchrum) *Caii Menvendani filii Barcuni.* A cut of the original inscription is hereunder annexed.



At the west end of the church of *Llanvihangel ferwerth*, or *Yorothe*, in the north-western part of the county, near the banks of the Towy is a polished free stone, whereon is to be found the following inscription:



To be read *Hic jacet Ulcacinus filius Senomacili.* We have still one inscribed stone to mention, which is to be seen at *Kaer-Maen*, not far from *Abarsaunan.* This stone is neatly carved, is about six feet high, having a cavity, by which it should seem to have been the pedastal of a cross, and the inscription, of which the cut hereunto annexed is a representation, might have been the stonecutters name. There



There are alſo in this county ſeveral other ſuch pillars with, Roman inſcriptions in the ſame barbarous characters.

In the pariſh of Tre'lech, about eight or nine miles north of Caermarthen, is a remarkable barrow, called *Krig y Dyrn*, ſuppoſed to ſignify the king's barrow. It is compoſed of an heap of ſtones, about 18 feet high, 150 feet in circumference, and covered with turf: it riſes with an eaſy aſſent, and is hollow on the top, gently inclining from the circumference to the center, where there is a rude flat ſtone of an oval form, about nine feet long, five broad, and a foot thick, covering a kind of a ſtone cheſt, conſiſting of ſix more ſtones. This Barrow is ſuppoſed to have been the burying place of ſome Britiſh prince of very great antiquity.

LAUGHARN, LLANCHARN, or TALCHARN, a ſmall town ſeven miles ſouth-weſt of Caermarthen, and 193 from London, is ſeated on the weſt ſide of the mouth of the river Tave, or Taff, and is pretty well built. It has ſome trade, and has ſeveral veſſels belonging to it. Its market, which is on Fridays, is pretty good, for corn, fleſh, and fiſh. There was formerly a caſtle called Abercorran, which was one of thoſe inhabited by the Flemings, but the time of its being built is uncertain; however, it is well known, that Henry VII. granted it to Rice ap Thomas, Knight of the garter: it was forfeited by his grandſon Rhys Griffith, and was afterwards granted to John Perrot, lord lieutenant of Ireland, who being attainted, it came by grant from the crown to Sir Sackville Crow, who ſold it to Sir John Powell, judge of the common pleas, whoſe heirs are the preſent poſſeſſors. The walls ſeem to be entire, except in a few places; but no

part

part of it is inhabited. There is only one fair held annually, at Luncharn on December 10, for cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware.

Below Talcharn, the river Taff, or Tave, falls into the ſea. This river was formerly famous for the *Ty dwyn Ar dav*, or the White houſe on the river Taff; where Howell, a prince of Wales, in a full aſſembly, abrogated the laws of his anceſtors, and promulgated new ones, after which a ſmall monaſtery, called Witland abbey, for Ciſterian monks, was founded by Rhaeſe, ſon of Theodore, prince of South-Wales, in the time of William the Conqueror, though ſome aſſert it was founded by Bernard biſhop of St. David's, in the year 1143, perhaps this prelate might have repaired it and added to the endowment, becoming thereby in ſome ſort a ſecond founder. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and valued upon the diſſolution at 125 l. 3 s. and 6 d. per annum.

At KILMAEN LHWYD not far from hence, on the borders of the county next Pembrokeſhire, about the beginning of the laſt century, was diſcovered a conſiderable quantity of Roman ſilver coins, but of a baſe alloy, and of all the emperors from the time of Commodus, who firſt debaſed the Roman ſilver, to the fifth tribuneſhip of Gordian the Third. Many of theſe were found to be of great value among the collectors of coins and medals. Alſo near Kilmaen Lhwyd, at a place called *Bronyskawen*, in the pariſh of *Lhan Boydy*, is a large camp called *y Gaer*. In the entrance of it, which is four yards wide, were diſcovered in the year 1292, two very rude leaden boxes, containing two hundred Roman ſilver coins, ſome of the moſt ancient found in Britain; they were buried very near the ſurface. We have annexed a cut of one of theſe

boxes,

boxes, : *a*, repreſents the box with its cover, *b*, the inſide of the box ; *c*, the inside of the cover.

a, *b*, *c*.

This camp is of an oval form, and about three hundred yards in circumference ; the bank, or rampart near the entrance, is about three yards high, but in the other parts generally much lower. On each ſide the camp is a barrow, or tumulus ; the ſmalleſt is near it, but the other at the diſtance of three hundred yards, and both hollow at the top.

Near LLAN BOYDY, is a monument conſiſting of a rude ſtone, about thirty feet in circumference, and three feet thick, ſupported by four pillars, each about three feet high, it is called *Gwal y Vilaſt*, or *Bwrdth Arthur*, but it does not appear by the word Arthur occurring in the name, that this monument has any relation to the fanous Britiſh king Arthur ; the ignorant credulity of the vulgar has attributed every object of antiquity which is great or extraordinary, throughout Wales to that prince, and all with equal reaſon.

NEWCASTLE in Emlyn, is ſeated on the ſouth bank of the river Towy, 12 miles north of Caermarthen, and 188 from London, over which there is a handſome bridge. It is but an indifferent place, but it had a handſome caſtle, which was deſtroyed by fire, in the civil wars ; the old Britiſh name is Dinas Emlyn, which ſome imagine ſignifies the city of Æmilian. However this is but

but a conjecture, for the name given to it by the Romans is uncertain, though ſome think it to have been the Loventium of the Dimetæ, mentioned by Ptolemy. It has a good market on Fridays, for cattle, corn, and proviſions; and three fairs, on June 22, July 18, and November 22, for cattle, horſes, and ſheep.

At St. CLARE, about five miles to the ſouth eaſt of Whitland Abbey, already mentioned, and nine miles weſt of Caermarthen, there was an Alien priory, conſiſting of a prior and two Cluniac monks, ſubordinate to St. Martin de Campis, in Paris. It was given by king Henry VI. to All Souls college, in Oxford.

On entering this county by the road from Brecon, we proceed north weſt to LLANIMDOVERY, or LLANIMDOFRY, ſituated near the river Towy, on the borders of the county next Brecknockſhire, 53 miles north weſt by weſt of Monmouth, 15 ſouth eaſt by eaſt of Llanbeder, and 184 north weſt of London. It is governed by a bailiff, and 12 capital burgeſſes; and all the freeholders are inferior burgeſſes. It conſiſts of about 100 mean houſes, the pariſh church, which is dedicated to St. Mary, ſtands upon a hill, at a little diſtance from the town. Near the eaſt end of this church, Roman bricks, and other remains of antiquity have been dug up, and there is a fine Roman way from the church to Llhanbran, which lies a few miles north of the town. Llanimdovery, had formerly a good caſtle, and ſtill has two conſiderable markets, on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, with ſix fairs, on July 31, Wedneſday after October 10, November 26, Wedneſday after Epiphany, Wedneſday after Eaſter, and Whit-Tueſday, for cattle, pigs, ſtockings and other things.

LLAN-

LLANSADWRN, is a village about five miles nearly weſt from Llanimdovery, and has one annual fair on October 5, for cattle and pedlars ware.

LLANGADOCK, is ſeated between the rivers Brane and Sawthy, which ſoon after empty themſelves into the Dowy; and is ſituated on the road, about ſix miles to the ſouth weſt of Llanimdovery. It is no extraordinary place, but has a good market on Thurſdays, and five fairs; on March 12, for horſes, and pedlars ware; on Holy Thurſday, July 9, and the firſt Thurſday in September, for cattle, horſes, and ſheep; and on December 11, for cattle, and pedlars ware.

LLANDILOVAWR, is ſeated on the river Dowy over which there is a handſome bridge, ſeven miles to the eaſtward of Llangadock, and 15 eaſt of Caermarthen. It is a pretty good town, and has two markets, on Tueſdays and Saturdays, for cattle, corn, and proviſions. It has only one fair, on June 21, for cattle, horſes ſheep and wool. This pariſh is the largeſt in the county, it being thirteen miles long, and ſeven or eight broad.

CAERKENEN CASTLE, is built on a rock, and ſtands between the hills, about four miles eaſt of Llandilovawr. By the gift of king Henry VII. it came to Sir Rice ap Thomas, Knt. of the garter, but being forfeited by his grandſon, Rice Griffith, it was granted to Richard Vaughan, earl of Carbery, lord preſident of Wales.

About three miles S. W. of Llandilovawr, is DENEVER CASTLE, or more properly Denefawr caſtle, which was the royal ſeat of the prince of South Wales. It has a very high ſituation, being placed on the top of a hill, whereon grow a vaſt number of trees. It has changed it's maſter very

often, till at length it fell to the crown, and Henry VII. made a grant of it to Sir Rice ap Thomas, Knt. of the garter, in whoſe family it ſtill continues. There is only the middle part of it kept in repair, the reſt being in ruins; yet it has a very agreeable appearance at a diſtance, as may better be ſeen by the annexed repreſentation, on an engraved plate.

LLANSAWILL, is a village eight miles north of Llandilavawr, and has three fairs, on the firſt Friday after May 12, for cattle and pedlars ware; July 26, and October 23, for cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware.

LLANVIHANGEL, is the name of two or three villages in this county, one of them has two fairs, on May 12, and October 10, for cattle, horſes, and ſheep.

LLANNWYNES, is a village 11 miles north weſt Caermarthen, which has one fair on November 12, for ſheep and pedlars ware.

LLANYBIDDAR, is a village ſeated upon the river Teivy, four miles weſt of Llandebar, and it has three fairs; on July 17, for pedlars ware; and on November 21, for cattle, ſheep, horſes, and cheeſe.

LITTLE MOUNTAIN, is a place that has two fairs; on May 12, and November 12, for cattle, and pedlars ware.

MWRRASS, is a village ſeated near the ſea ſide, 13 miles weſt ſouth weſt of Caermarthen, and has one fair; on Auguſt 21, for cattle, ſheep, and pedlars ware.

MYDRIM, is a village eight miles weſt of Caermarthen, that has one fair; on March 12, for cattle, horſes, and flannel.

PENTRE, a village about three miles nearly eaſt from Llandilovawr, has two fairs; namely, May 12, and October 10, for cattle, horſes, and ſheep.

The South View of Denefaws Caſtle *in the County of* Caermarthen.

ſheep. There is another village of the ſame name, about two miles N. W. from Caermarthen, but it has no fair.

The tenth legion called Antoniana, which ſerved under Oſtorius againſt the Silures and Ordovices, was in this county, as appears by the following coin, dug up in ſome part of it, but where, is uncertain.

Caermarthenſhire, together with Cardiganſhire and Pembrokeſhire, was in the time of the Romans, inhabited by a tribe of Britons called by Ptolemy, *Dimetæ* and *Demetæ*; later writers have conſtantly given the name of *Dimetia*, to theſe three counties; which word is ſuppoſed with great probability to be derived from the Britiſh name *Dyved*, by an eaſy change of the letter V into an M, a cuſtomary thing with the Romans, as has been already noted, and it is by this name that the ſaid three counties are ſtill known among the native Welſh.

This county gave birth to Walter Devereux, the firſt earl of Eſſex of that name and family, who was a general, equally diſtinguiſhed for his courage and conduct. He was born of an honourable family, at his grand-father's caſtle, about the year 1540, and educated in his youth with the greateſt care. His ſervices in contributing to ſuppreſs the rebellion, raiſed by the potent earls of Northumberland, and Weſtmorland, procured him the favour of the court, ſo that he was honoured with the garter, and ſome time after, a rebellion breaking forth in Ireland, he undertook, at the head of a body of volunteers, to reduce the inſurgents. In this expedition the inſidious arts of his ſecret enemies at home, con-

ſpiring with the power of his foes in the field, he was unable to ſuſtain the agonies of his mind, but pining away with grief and reſentment, this brought on a flux, that put a period to a life which miſery had before rendered diſagreeable. He died on the 22d of September, 1576, not yet arrived at the thirty-fifth year of his age. There was a ſuſpicion of his being poiſoned, but how well grounded, it is impoſſible to determine.

CAER-

CAERNARVONSHIRE.

THIS name is taken from that of the chief town, Caernarvon, which ſignifies the fortreſs of Arvon, for ſo the county was once called. It's name in Welſh, is, *Sir Gaernarvon*, and before Wales was divided into counties, it was called *Snowdon Foreſt*. It is bounded on the north and weſt by the ſea; on the ſouth by Merionethſhire and the ſea, and on the eaſt by Denbighſhire; it is in length, from north to ſouth about 40 miles, in breadth 20, and near 100 in circumference. The ſouthern part of this county forms a peninſula, 13 miles in length, and in the wideſt part about 10 miles broad. This is called Lhyn, in the Welſh language, and by Ptolemy, is named, Langanum.

The principal rivers of Caernarvonſhire are the Conway, and the Seiont. The Conway has it's ſource from a lake called, Llyn Conway, ſituated where the counties of Caernarvon, Denbigh, and Merioneth meet, and running north, ſerves as a boundary between the two firſt mentioned counties, falling into the Iriſh ſea, at Aberconway. This river is but about 24 meaſured miles in length from it's ſource to the ſea, yet is a very conſiderable ſtream, for it receives in it's courſe ſo many ſmall rivers and brooks, that it is navigable for ſhipping, within a few miles of the lake from whence it ſprings. It's name is ſuppoſed to ſignify in Welſh, the chief of Rivers, and it produces not only fiſh, but pearls as large, and often

of as good colour, as any in Britain or Ireland; they are found in large black muſcles, which according to Dr. Liſter, are the thickeſt and heavieſt of all others. They are peculiar to ſwift ſtrong rivers, and are common in Wales, as well as in the north of England, Scotland, and ſome parts of Ireland. Thoſe that fiſh for theſe ſhells can gueſs pretty well by the outſide of the muſcles whether they contain any Pearls or not. The Seiont riſes from a lake, called *Llyntri's*, in Snowdon Hills, and taking it's courſe weſtward falls into the ſtraits of Meneu, at Caernarvon.

The air of Caernarvonſhire is cold and peircing, from the great number of it's lakes, and lofty mountains; however the extremities of the county, particularly thoſe bordering on the ſea, are as fruitful and populous, as any in North Wales: They yield great plenty of fine barley, and feed vaſt herds of cattle and ſheep. There are, between the hills, many pleaſant and fruitful vallies, finely contraſted by the dreary waſtes, with which they are ſurrounded, and numerous flocks of goats and ſheep feed upon the mountains. This county abounds in wood, plenty of fiſh are produced in the lakes and rivers, and the coaſt is well ſupplied with ſea fiſh of all ſorts.

It is divided into ſeven hundreds; contains one city, and three market towns, and lies in the province of Canterbury, and dioceſe of Bangor; it has 68 pariſhes, 2765 houſes, and near 17000 inhabitants. It ſends two members to parliament, one for the ſhire, and one for the borough of Caernarvon.

The inner parts of this county, as before obſerved, are full of high mountains, which were in time of war, a ſafe retreat to the Britons. Here are ſuch a number of rocks and craggy places, and ſo many valleys, incumbered with woods

woods and lakes, that they are not only impaſſable to an army, but even to men lightly armed. Theſe mountains may be called the Britiſh Alps, for they are not only the higheſt in the iſland, but are alſo in ſome places inacceſſible, on account of their ſteepneſs.

They extend from north to ſouth; one mountain named Snowdon Hill, is much higher than the reſt, but having a top conſiderably broader, the difference in height is not very viſible at a diſtance.

The Welſh name for theſe mountains, is *Kreigieu Eryrew*, and the lower parts of them are ſo fertile in graſs that it is a common ſaying among the Welſh, that the mountains of Eryrew, would, in caſe of neceſſity, afford paſture enough for all the cattle in Wales.

The moſt remarkable mountain next to Snowdon, is *Penman-mawr*, the moſt northerly of this chain, which on the ſide next the ſea, riſes almoſt perpendicular to ſo great a height, that few ſpectators would be able to look down the dreadful ſteep without terror. On that ſide a rode about ſeven feet wide is cut out of the rock, winding up the ſteep aſcent hill it riſes about 240 feet above the level of the ſea; and is nearly the ſame diſtance from the top of the rock, which at a great height hangs over the head of the paſſenger. On the ſide of this road next the precipice, the traveller was, till lately, only defended by a ſlight wall, in few places above a yard high, and in others by only a bank, that ſcarce roſe a foot above the road. While the ſea, of which he has an unbounded proſpect, is ſeen daſhing it's waves below. But it is ſaid that a few years ago, a wall was built, breaſt high, to the building of which, the city of Dublin greatly contributed. However, this, dangerous as it muſt appear, is

the high road to Bangor and Holyhead, over which the lord lieutenant of Ireland paſſes in his way to that port. To the north eaſt of this frightful road, and of a leſſer promontory, a plain extends as far as the river Conway, which is the eaſtern limit of the county.

On the top of Penman-mawr, ſtands a lofty and impregnable hill, called *Braich y Dhinas*, where we find the ruinous walls of an exceeding ſtrong fortification, and within them is the foundation of at leaſt 100 towers, all round, of an equal ſize, and about ſix yards in diameter, within the walls, which were in moſt places two yards thick, and in ſome about three. This caſtle when ſtanding, ſeems to have been impregnable, there being no way to aſſault it, the hill being ſo very high, ſteep, and rocky, and the walls of ſuch ſtrength. The way to it aſcends with many turnings, inſomuch that 100 men might defend themſelves againſt a whole army; yet there ſeems to have been within the walls, lodgings for 20000 men. At the top of the rock, within the innermoſt wall is a well, which never fails in the drieſt ſummers.

About a mile from this fortification upon a plain mountain, is a circular intrenchment, about 26 yards in diameter, and on the outſide are certain rude ſtone pillars, of which about twelve are are now ſtanding; ſome of them are two yards and others five feet high; and theſe again are ſurrounded with a ſtone wall. About three furlongs from this monument, there are ſeveral vaſt heaps of ſmall ſtones, ſuppoſed to have been collected in memory of a battle fought here between the Romans and the Britons; but others imagine they were deſigned to prevent the wild boars, then very common, from rooting up the dead bodies.

On

On the ſummit of another very high mountain, on the ſea ſide, named *Glyder* is a prodigious heap of ſtones, of an irregular ſhape, many of which are as large as thoſe of Stonehenge, in Wiltſhire. They lie in the utmoſt confuſion, ſome of them reclining, and others lying a-croſs one another. A phænomenon which no perſon has been able to account for.

On the weſt ſide of the ſame mountain, among many other precipices, is one very ſteep and naked, adorned with a prodigious number of equidiſtant pillars; the interſtices between which are ſuppoſed to have been occaſioned by the continual fall of water down the cliff, which is expoſed to a weſterly ſea-wind. "But why, ſays the author of England illuſtrated, the water ſhould have dropped at theſe regular diſtances, before the hollows were formed, we are not told; poſſibly, the whole rock may conſiſt of vaſt bodies of ſtone, with fabulous or earthy matter between them; and if ſo, the rain may have waſhed away the ſand or earth from between the ſtony and ſolid parts of the maſs on the top and the ſides, and ſo formed the appearance of ruins above, and of pillars below, which may be conſidered as ſkeletons of theſe parts of the mountain."

On the high mountains of this county there is a very great variety of rare plants, which are found among the loftieſt and ſteepeſt rocks. It would take up too much room to enumerate the whole, we ſhall therefore only ſelect from among them the few which follow.

Low creeping mountain Welſh Sorrel, with a round leaf: Acetoſa Cambro Britannica montana, Park: *Acetoſa rotundifolia repens Eboracenſis folio in medio obliquum patente*, Mor. Hiſt: *Acetoſa Humilis repens folio rotundo emarginato*, Mill: grows on moiſt rocks, and by rivulets on Snowdon. The

leaves of Sorrel abate heat, and have been uſed to prevent or correct a tendency to putrefaction in febrile or ſcorbutic diſorders. The Greenlanders, who are much ſubject to the laſt mentioned diſtemper, are ſaid to employ, with good ſucceſs, a mixture of Sorrel and Cochlearia.

Mountain Bugle, or middle conſound: Bugula cærulea Alpina, Park: *Bugula conſolida media Alpina*, C. B. This plant was found by Dr. Johnſon on Carnedh Shewellin. The leaves of the mountain Bugle probably poſſeſs the ſame virtue as is aſcribed to thoſe of the common Bugle, which are vulneraries, mild aſtringents, and corroborants in fluxes and other diſorders.

Purple Mountain or Water Avens: Caryophillata aquatica nutante flore, C. B. *Caryophillata aquatica flore rubro ſtriato*, J. B: *Caryophillata montana purpurea*, Ger. *Geum floribus nutantibus, fructu oblongo, ariſtis plumoſis*, Hort. Cliff. 195. This plant is met with on Snowdon.

Engliſh ſoft, or gentle Thiſtle. Cirſium Anglicum, Ger: *Cerſium alind Auglicum*, Park: *Cerſium ſingulari capitulo magno vel in canum alterum*, C. B. *Cirſium Britannicum Cluſii repens*, J. B. *Carduus foliis Canceolatis decurrentibus denticulis inermibus, calyce ſpinoſo*, Hort. Cliff. 392. on the high rocks about Snowdon. This is a biennial plant, and has been heretofore cultivated for medicinal uſes, when it was uſed in maniacal diſorders.

Mountain dwarf Juniper. Juneperus minor montana folio latiore, fructuque longiore, C. B. *Juneperus Alpina*, J. B. *Juneperus Alpina minor*, Ger. This grows on Snowdon hills, it is by the country people, called Savine, and they uſe the decoction of it to deſtroy bots in horſes.

Greater rough Spleenwort, Lonchitis aſpera, C. B. *Lonchitis aſpera major*, Ger. *Lonchitis aſpera major Matthiolo*, Park. *Lonchitis altera cum folio denticulato*,

lato, ſive Lonchitis altera Matthioli, J. B. This is a rare plant, but may be met with in rifts and chinks of rocks in Snowdon.

Upright fir-moſs: Muſcus erectus Abieti-formis, terreſtris rectus, J. B. is alſo met with on Snowdon.

Mountain heath-like Sengreen with large purple flowers: Sedum Alpinum Ericoides cæruleum, C. B. and J. B: is found plentifully on the rocks of Snowdon; and by the ſides of rivulets on the ſame mountain, is found, *Small Mountain Seagreen, with jagged leaves, Sedum Alpinum trio folio:* C. B.

Small leaved mountain Chickweed, with a fair flower, Auricula muris pulchro flore, folio tenuiſſimo: J. B. grows on the ſteep rocks of Snowdon.

Branched Engliſh black Maidenhair: Tricomanes ramoſum, J. B. is to be found in the ſame places, viz. the rocks of Snowdon.

To form any idea of the mountains, on which moſt of the above-mentioned plants naturally grow, it is neceſſary to have ſeen ſomething of the ſame nature, the Alps for example, becauſe the common hills are ſimple heights or ſtories, but theſe are heaped one upon another, inſomuch that having climbed up one rock we come to a valley, and commonly a lake. Then paſſing by that we aſcend another, and ſometimes a third and fourth before we arrive at the higheſt peaks.

Theſe mountains, as well as Kader Idris, and ſome others in Merionethſhire, differ from thoſe near Brecknock and elſewhere in South-Wales, in being much more naked and inacceſſible, and in having their lower ſkirts and valleys always covered, or ſcattered over with the fragments of rocks of all ſizes, moſt of which ſeem to have fallen from the impending cliffs. Many months in the year, they are covered with ſnow; but generally ſpeaking, no ſnow lies on them from the end of April to the middle of September, a few heaps only excepted, which do not

not melt till the latter end of June. It often ſnows indeed on the tops of theſe mountains in May and June; but then the ſnow or fleet, melts as ſoon as it falls. And when it ſnows on the high mountains it only rains in the valleys.

The number of lakes in this dreary tract, may be about fifty or ſixty; and they have generally the ſame names as the rivers that proceed from them, or are named from the colour of the water. There is one under the higheſt peak of Snowdon, called *Tynon Las*, which ſignifies the Green-Fountain; but it is not proper to this hill, for Mr. Ray has obſerved the ſame thing of ſome of the lakes among the Alps. Others receive their names from ſome village or pariſh church adjoining, or from a remarkable mountain or rock under which they are ſeated. Some have affirmed, that there are lakes on the higheſt tops of theſe mountains, one of which was remarkable for a wandering iſland, and that the fiſh had only one eye each; but theſe are miſtakes, for there are no lakes on the higheſt part of any of them. The lake with the wandering iſland, is only a ſmall pond, with a little green patch near the brink of it, which was the occaſion of this fable; but there is not the leaſt foundation for affirming the fiſh have but one eye. Moſt of the lakes are well ſtocked with fiſh, which are generally trouts and eels, except the Torgock found in ſome; but beſides this, there is another Alpine fiſh, known by the name of the Gilt-Char, at leaſt it is thought to be ſo by the beſt naturaliſts. There are alſo ſome of theſe bred in Wynander river, in the county of Weſtmorland. This fiſh is broader in proportion than a trout, and the belly is more prominent; but in length never exceeds twelve inches. Some however ſay, that the Torgoch and Gilt-char, are the ſame fiſh, which in Wynander Meer already

mentioned

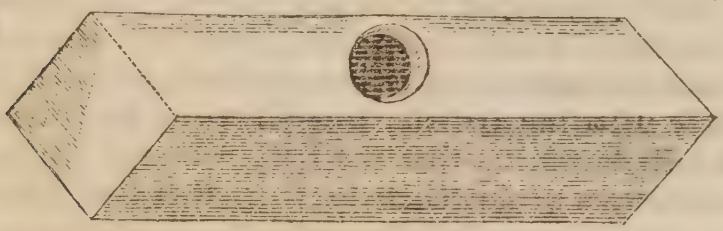
mentioned, is called the Red Char, it having its name from its red belly, and the Welch word Torgoch, is of the ſame import, for it ſignifies a red belly. This fiſh is to be found in Llyn Peris in this county, and at four other places in Wales. The ſeaſon for catching it, begins about the twenty ſecond of November, and continues for a month, but they are always taken with nets. It is remarkable that the inhabitants of theſe mountains call any low country *Hendrew*, which ſignifies the ancient habitation. It is a common tradition among them, as well as thoſe who inhabit the like places in Brecknock and Radnorſhire, that the Iriſh were the ancient proprietors of this country; and this is the more remarkable, as theſe people have no communication with each other, there being near an hundred miles diſtance between them.

CAERNARVONSHIRE is divided into ſeven huddreds, and contains one city, namely Bangor, which indeed does not now deſerve the name of a city; and five market towns, Aberconway, Caernarvon, Pulheli, Newin, and Crickieth. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and in the dioceſe of Bangor, and has ſixty eight pariſhes. It ſends two members to parliament, one for the county, and one for the town of Caernarvon.

The firſt town we meet with, in the London road, or that from Cheſter, is CONWAY, or ABERCONWAY, ſeated on the weſt bank of the river Conway, which divides this county from Denbighſhire, within two miles of the place where it diſcharges itſelf into the ſea. Aberconway was built about the year 1282, by king Edward the firſt, in the moſt northern part of the county. It may be ſaid to ſpring out of the ruins of the old Conovium, which ſtood about five miles higher up the river, where its memory is preſerved by a ſmall village called *Kaer Rhûn*, or *Kaer-Hên*,

the

the old city. About the latter end of the laſt century, there was diſcovered here a Roman hypocauſt, built by the tenth legion called *Antoniana*, as appears from the ſeveral tyles found at this place, inſcribed L E G. X. and from ſeveral other remains of Roman antiquities. This legion ſerved under Oſtorius againſt the Silures and Ordovices. The tyles abovementioned were hollow; we have given a cut of one of them :



This tile is thirteen inches long, five and an half broad, and three quaters of an inch thick, having an hole in the middle about two inches in diameter. It was preſerved in the collection of Sir Thomas Moſtyn, who was alſo poſſeſſed of a round piece of copper found here, ſomewhat reſembling a cake of wax; it was even or flat on one ſide, and convex on the other, about eleven inches over, and weighed about forty pounds; the margin or circumference was uneven, and ſomething ragged on each ſide, and in the middle of the flat ſide was ſunk an oblong ſquare, with an inſcription as repreſented in the annexed cut:

The inſcription is ſuppoſed to be the merchant's name, or a direction to his correſpondent at Rome, to whom he ſent his bullion or rude cop-

per,

per, of which this is ſuppoſed to be a caſt. It was found near Haerhen; and there are remains of old Roman copper-works in the neighbourhood.

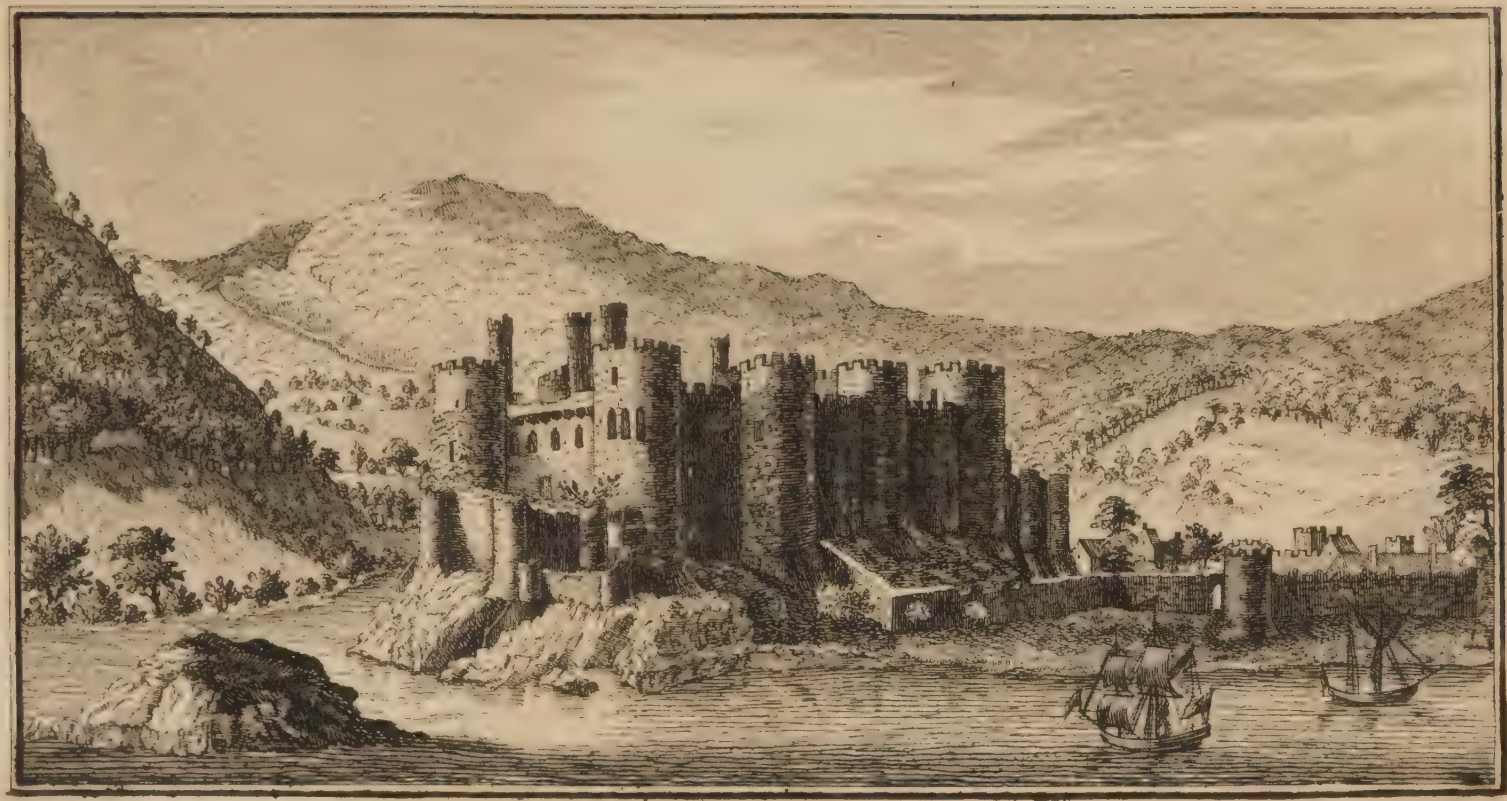
In the year 880, Anârawd prince of North-Wales, gained a memorable victory near this place over Eadred, the Saxon duke of Mercia. Of this battle Mr. Robert Vaughan gives the following account, in ſome notes on Dr. Howel's hiſtory of Wales.

"After the death of *Roderic* the Great, the northern Britons of *Stratelwyd* and *Cumberland*, were (as *Hector Boetius* and *Buchanan* relates) much infeſted and weakened with the daily incurſions of Danes, Saxons, and Scots, which made all, that woul' not ſubmit their necks to the yoke, to quit their country and ſeek out more quiet habitations. Under the conduct of one *Hobert*, they came to North-Wales, in the beginning of the reign of *Anârawd*; who commiſerating their diſtreſſed condition, gave them the country from Cheſter to the river Conway to inhabit, if they could force out the Saxons, who had lately poſſeſſed themſelves of it; whereupon theſe Britons firſt engaged the Saxons; and neceſſity giving edge to their valour, ſoon drove them hence, being yet ſcarce warm in their ſeats. About three years after this, An. Dom. 886 *Edryd* the Long haired king of the Saxons, called by the Engliſh hiſtorians *Eadred* duke of Mercia, made great preparations for the regaining of the ſaid country; but the northern Britons, who had ſettled there, having intelligence of it, for the better ſecuring of their cattle and goods, removed them over the river Conway; in the mean the time prince Anârawd was not idle, but gathered together all the ſtrength he could make. His army encamped near Conway, at a place called

called Kymryd, where he and his men making reſiſtance againſt the aſſaults of the Saxon power, at length, after a bloody engagement, obtained a compleat victory. The Britons purſuing this advantage, chaſed the Saxons quite out of *Wales* into *Mercia*, where having burnt and deſtroyed the borders, they returned home laden with rich ſpoils. *Anáraud*, to expreſs his thankfulneſs to God for this great victory, gave lands and poſſeſſions to the Church of *Bangor*, and the collegiate church of Aron. After this, the northern Britons came back from beyond the river Conway, and poſſeſſed again the lands aſſigned them between Conway and Cheſter, which for a long time after they peaceably enjoyed. In the year 1185, Leweline ap Gervas, prince of North-Wales, founded an abby here dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and All Saints for Ciſterian monks, but about the year 1282, the Monks were removed by king Edward the firſt, to a monaſtery he had founded at Maynan in Denbighſhire, about three miles from hence.

The caſtle of Aberconway, of which a north-eaſt view is given in this work, is of greater antiquity than the town, for it was fortified by Hugh earl of Cheſter in the reign of William the Conqueror; but afterwards being damaged in the wars, and falling to decay, it was rebuilt by king Edward the firſt. In the beginning of the late civil wars, Dr. John Williams, archbiſhop of York, a native of this place, having eſcaped hither from Yorkſhire, fortified this caſtle for the king at his own expence, and held it till May 1645, when it was ſeized by Sir John Owen, by virtue of a commiſſion from prince Rupert, and on the 19th of January, 1646, it was delivered up to the parliament.

The



Vol. I. pag. 208.

The North East View of Aberconway Caſtle *in the County of* Caernarvon .

The town is large and ſurrounded by a wall; it enjoys delightful ſituation, for it ſtands on the ſide of a hill, and on the banks of the river, as broad as the Thames as Deptford. The caſtle was ſtrong, the walls are of a large compaſs, defended by thirty-five watch towers, which with the caſtle being very white, at the diſtance of a mile, make a good appearance, ſo that taking in its port, the ferry over the river into Denbigſhire, and the little hills covered with timber on both ſides the bay, no place can furniſh a more beautiful landſcape. It is governed by two bailiffs, and has a market on Fridays, with 4 fairs viz. on April 6, September 4, October 10, and November 8, all for cattle. We find in this place plenty of corn, timber, and oak bark, and there are annually cleared out of the cuſtom-houſe, eleven or twelve thouſand buſhels of different ſorts of grain. Though the place is much reduced for want of trade, which of late years is greatly diminiſhed, yet they have, in common with other harbours on the coaſt, ſome importations for the uſe of the country.

In this town is a remarkable epitaph, viz. "Here lieth the body of Nicholas Hookes, of Conway, Gent. who was the one and fortieth child of his father William Hookes, Eſq; by Alice his wife, and the father of ſeven and twenty children." He died the 20th of March, 1637, and the ſame inſcription was revived in 1720, at the charge of John Hookes, Eſq;

Up the country is a vaſt body of Marcaſite, of which copperas is made, and there are probably veins of copper ore near it. The pearl fiſhery is now greatly neglected, as it is in all other places on the coaſt. There was formerly a great copper mine at Llandudno, near this harbour, which now lies under water; but it might without

out

out much difficulty be recovered with proper engines. Aberconway is twenty miles weſt of Denbigh; ſixty ſeven weſt by north of Cheſter; forty eaſt of Holyhead; and two hundred and twenty nine miles north weſt of London.

Almoſt oppoſite to Aberconway, on the ſouth ſide of the river, is a promontory, included in this county, which has a crooked elbow that forms an harbour; it is called Gogartly, and here ſtood the ancient city of Diganway, which many ages ſince was conſumed with lightning. About ſixty years ago there were found at a caſtle here, or near it, ſeveral braſs inſtruments in the ſhape of axes, but whether Britiſh or Roman, it is hard to ſay, or what uſe they were deſigned for. There were about ſifty of them found under a great ſtone, placed heads to points. They were by ſome ſuppoſed to be the military weapons of the ancient Britons, before they knew the uſe of iron and ſteel. Theſe inſtruments are generally called *Celtes*, and have by many been conjectured to be the heads of the axes and faſces carried by the Roman Lictors, though others take them rather to be inſtruments uſed in war, and imagine the Romans poſſeſſed the ſecret of hardening braſs to ſuch a degree, as to make it proper for the uſes to which ſteel is now applied.

From Aberconway, there are two roads which lead to Holyhead; the one, which is ſomething the neareſt, is over the Levan ſands, which can only be paſſed at low water, and is therefore extremely dangerous. It leads directly to Beaumaris; but thoſe who chuſe to paſs it, are obliged to be very exact in taking advantage of the ebb of the tide; for if it ſhould return before they have croſſed theſe dangerous ſands, they are infallibly loſt, and many have been drowned for want

want of attending with ſufficient care to this precaution. The other road leads over Pemanmaur to Bangor.

The city of BANGOR is ſituated twelve miles to the weſtward of Aberconway, and though it is at preſent a mean town, was anciently called by the Britons Bangor Vawr yn Gwyned, that is to ſay, Bangor The Great in North-Wales, it is in the northern part of the county, near the entrance of the Menai, which parts this ſhire from Angleſea. It is incloſed on the ſouth by a very ſteep mountain, and by a hill on the north.

A biſhoprick is thought to have been erected at Bangor, before the middle of the ſixth century, by Malgwyn, or Malgo Conan, prince of North-Wales; though we find no certain footſteps of any biſhop reſiding here till the reign of king Henry the Firſt: the firſt biſhop is ſaid to be Daniel, the ſon of Dinothus, abbot of Bangor, in Flintſhire, who had before founded a monaſtery, or college here. The old church was burnt by Owen Glendowr, about the year 1404, and afterwards rebuilt in the reign of Henry the Seventh, by Henry Dennis its biſhop. Upon the diſſolution, the revenues of the biſhopric were valued at 151 l. 3s. per annum. The whole length of the cathedral, which is now uſed for the pariſh church, is 214 feet, the croſs iſle is near 96 feet long, and the tower 60 feet high. This fabrick is kept in good repair, two thirds of the rectory of Llandinam being ſettled to ſupport it; and there now belongs to the cathedral, a biſhop, a dean, an archdeacon, a treaſurer, and two prebendaries endowed, a precentor, a chancellor, and three canons not endowed; two vicars coral, an organiſt, lay clerks, choriſters, and other officers.

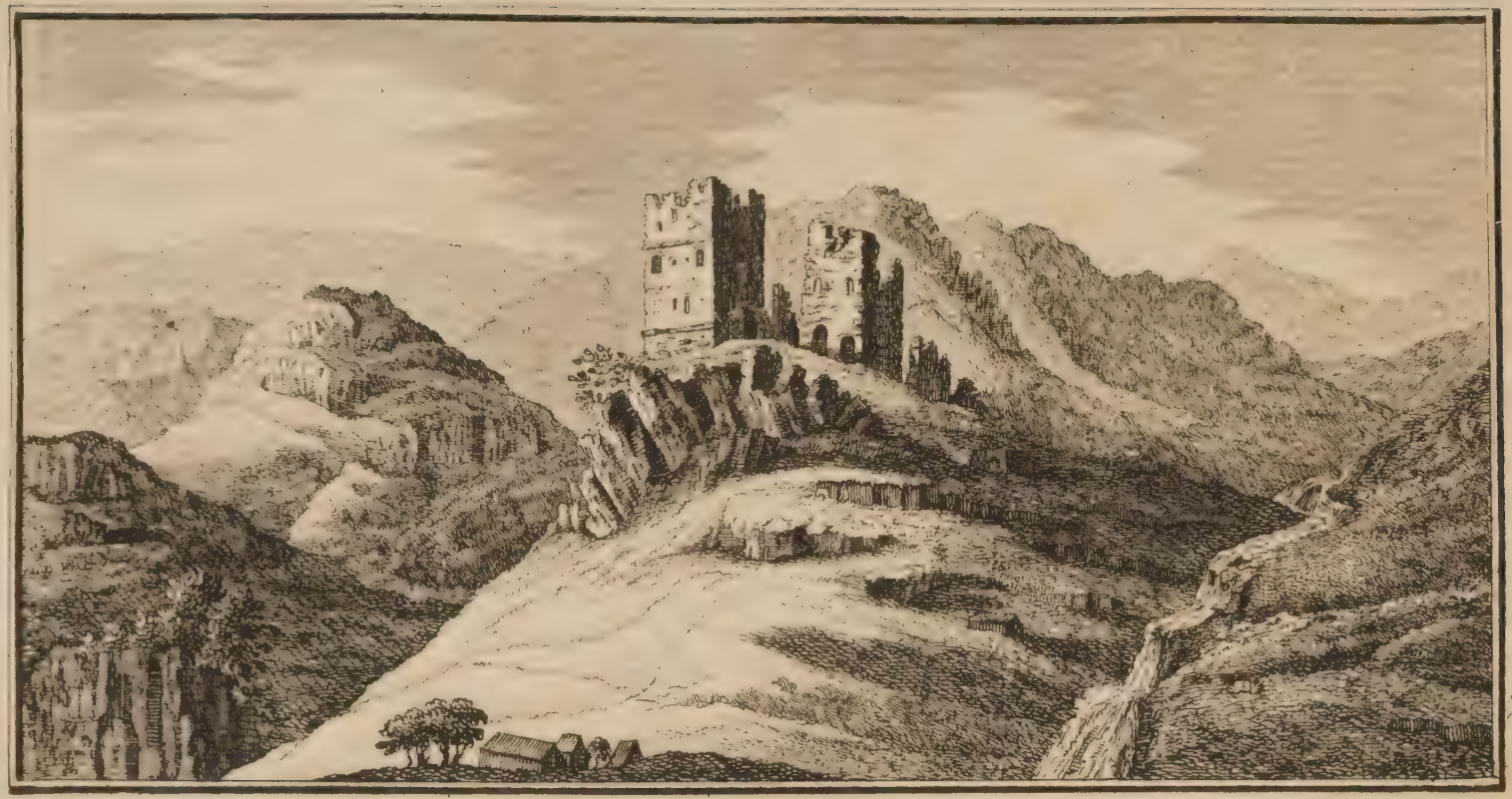
Beſides

Beſides the cathedral, there is a palace belonging to the biſhop, and a free ſchool, which, ſo early as the year 1276 was an houſe of friars predicant; but in 1557, it was converted by Dr. Jeffery Glynn to its preſent uſe. It was formerly defended by a caſtle, built by Hugh earl of Cheſter, of which there are now no remains. Though the buildings are old and mean, the town is pretty well inhabited. The market is held on Wedneſdays, and it has three fairs, namely, on April 5, June 25, and October 28, all for cattle. It is 60 miles to the weſt of Cheſter, and 242 north-weſt of London.

LLANDLECHYD, a village about three miles to the ſouth-eaſt of Bangor, has one fair on October 30, for cattle.

DOLWYDDELEN, is ſituated near Snowdon hills, the name ſignifies the *Caſtle of the Valley of St. Helen's Wood*; and there is an ancient road from hence through the mountains towards the ſea coaſt of Merionethſhire called *Sam-Elen* or *Helen's way*, ſuppoſed to have been made by Helena the mother of Conſtantine the Great; it is therefore probably that it was a ſtrong hold, before the time of that emperor; but the caſtle, of which a plate is given with this work, is thought to have been built by the Britons, about the year 500, on their firſt retreat into Wales; there are parts of two towers ſtill ſtanding, and the whole ſeems to have been of conſiderable extent.

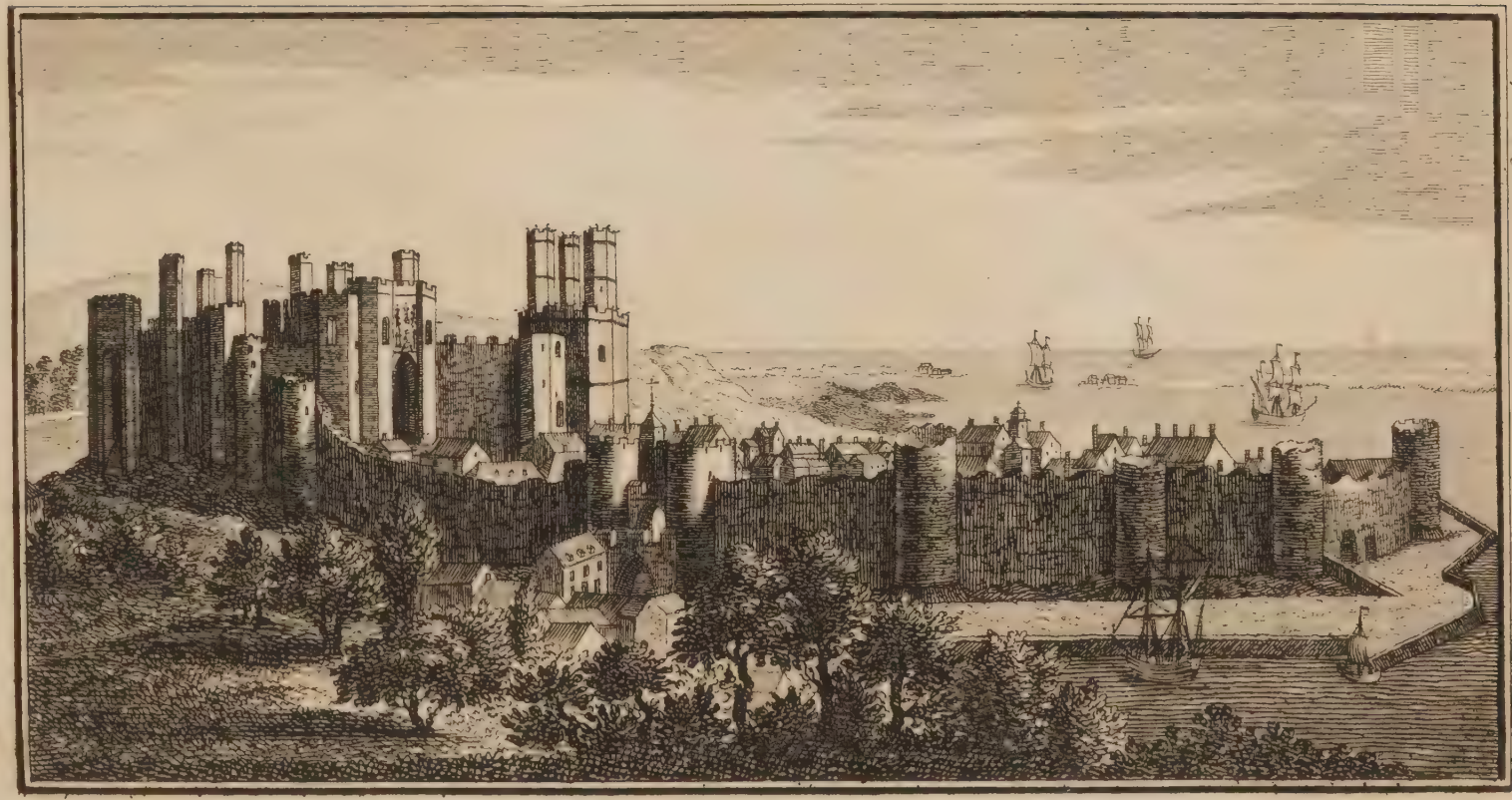
From Bangor a road continues ſouth-weſt 24 miles to CAERNARVON, which is alſo ſeated on the ſtreights of Meneu, or Menay, the channel that ſeparates this county from the iſland of Angleſea. Here the antient Segontium of Antoninus is thought by Camden to have been ſituated. This town was called by the Britons Caer Seint, from



The East View of Dolwyddelan Caſtle *in the County of* Caernarvon.

Vol. I. pa. 212.

The North East View of Caernarvon Caſtle.



Vol. I. pa. 213.

from the river Seiont, which runs by it. About the year 600, it was the ſeat of the Britiſh princes, but it gave way to the new town built in after times, called CAERNARVON, or *Caer ar Von*, that is, *the town overagainſt Mon*, or Angleſea; from which the county now borrows its name, as we have before obſerved. This town is encompaſſed with a firm wall, and over it are ſeen Snowden hills. It is related that the body of the emperor Conſtantius, father of Conſtantine the Great, being found here about the year 1283, when king Edward the Firſt was building this town and caſtle, he ordered it to be interred honourably in the new-church. The conſtable of the caſtle is always mayor of the town, by virtue of his patent; and ſubordinate to him are an alderman, two bailiffs, a town-clerk, and other officers. It has the privilege of a market on Saturdays, and four fairs, namely, on February 25, May 16, Auguſt 4, and December 5, for cattle and pedlars ware. King Edward the Firſt is ſaid to have converted the profits of the archbiſhoprick of York, then void, to the building and fortifying of Caernarvon-caſtle. In a part of this caſtle, called (from the figures on the angles of it) the Eagle tower, was born on the 25th of April, 1284 Edward of Caernarvon, the firſt prince of Wales of the Engliſh blood; afterwards king, by the name of Edward the Second. This caſtle, of which a fine N. E. view is given in this work, was beſieged by the parliamentary forces in the great rebellion, and ſurrendered to them in the beginning of June 1646. The chief commodities here are corn and ſlate, and they ſhip off here yearly from 20 to 30000 buſhels of different kinds of grain. The ſlates are of the blue kind, and being very light, are convenient for houſes ſlightly timbered, and will

will endure the weather extremely well. Of theſe they ſend yearly to different parts of England and Ireland above four millions. Not far off on the Angleſea ſide, they have plenty of lime ſtone and near Moel y Don, on the Caernarvonſhire ſide, there is a large bed of a ſmall beautiful grained white free ſtone, which ſupplies all the artificers in this part of the world with whet ſtones; the hardeſt of it when uſed with oil, being little inferior to the Turkey oil-ſtone. They have fiſh here in great plenty, ſuch as ſalmon, cod, and whitings, all ſort of flat-fiſh, oyſters, muſcles, and cockles. They alſo ſhip off great quantities of butter, cheeſe, honey, and wax. There are ſeveral veins of lead ore, lately diſcovered near Snowdon hill not far from hence, and not many years ago a woollen manufacture was ſet up here, which it is thought will anſwer very well. Caernarvon is 82 miles north-weſt of Welch-Pool, and 251 north-weſt of London.

The town of Caernarvon, though ſmall is neat, tollerably built and well inhabited, and there is good anchorage in the bay, the ferry which goes from hence to Angleſea, is called Abermenai ferry, whence there is a direct road to Holyhead. Caernarvon gives the titles of earl and marquis to the noble family of Bridges for ſome ſucceſſions dukes of Chandos.

At DOLBADERN, five miles eaſt of Caernarvon, and under Snowdon hill, are the ruins of a caſtle, of which there is only one tower now ſtanding, and that not entire. Theſe ruins are pretty large, and ſeem to have been an ancient Britiſh fort; the caſtle was given away from the crown by king William ſoon after the revolution.

ABERWINGREGIN in this county, is only noted for having three fairs, all for cattle, namely, on Auguſt 18, October 25, and November 21.

BETTWS

BETTWS, a village on the banks of the Conway, and on the borders of Denbighſhire, about ſeventeen miles eaſt of Caernarvon, is remarkable only for having two fairs annually for cattle, viz. May 15, and December 3.

BEDDGELERT is a village ſeated to the ſouth of Snowdon hill, and thirteen miles ſouth eaſt of Caernarvon, it has two fairs on Auguſt 16, and September 23 for cattle.

PENMORSA, a village about five miles to the ſouthward of that laſt mentioned, has three fairs, viz. on Auguſt 20, September 25, and November 12, for cattle.

CLYNOGVAWR is a village ſeated in the weſtern part of the county, on St. George's channel, ten miles ſouth of Caernarvon. St. Beans had this townſhip given him by Gwiddeint or Guithin of the blood royal of Wales, about the year ſix hundred and ſixteen, and here built a Ciſtertian abbey, becoming himſelf the firſt abbot thereof. It was afterwards dedicated to him, and received favours and poſſeſſions from ſeveral Welch princes; but has been long ſince demoliſhed. The preſent edifice, which is in good condition, has been a collegiate church, once in great repute, conſiſting of five portioniſts or prebendaries, and continued ſo till the diſſolution, when it was converted into a ſinecure, rectory and vicarage endowed. The advowſon was ſome time ſince given by the earl of Pembroke to Jeſus College in Oxford, and the College at the ſame time obliged always to preſent their Principal to the rectory. There are two fairs kept here, on Auguſt 18, and September 23, both for cattle.

Twenty two miles to the ſouth of Caernarvan, is PWLLHELY, or Pulihel, which is one of the principal towns in this county, is ſeated on a bay of the ſame name, on the eaſt ſide of the peninſula, between

between two rivers, and is a pretty good place, governed by a bailiff. It has a market on Wednesdays for corn and provisions; and four fairs, viz, on May 13, August 19, September 24, and November 11, for cattle. In the adjoining bay are large beds of Oysters, and plenty of fish; and some years they have a good herring fishery, but its chief commodities are butter and cheese. At Yslumllin, a little to the eastward of this place, there is a vein of yellow oker.

CRICKIETH is a borough town, governed by a mayor and two bailiffs, and joins with others in this county, in electing a member to serve in parliament. It is seated six miles north-east of Pulhely. There are the ruins of a castle on the top of a hill, and a gateway remaining, but the place shews it never could have been of any great extent. This castle is supposed to have been built, together with the town, by Prince Llewellyn ap Jorwerth, about the year 12,000.

In the year 1237, it was in possession of Prince David ap Llewelly ap Jorwerth, who in violation of his oath, took his brother Griffith (then under the protection of the bishop of Bangor) and imprisoned him in this castle. The town has a market on Wednesdays, and four fairs annually, viz. on May 23, July 1, and October 18, all for cattle.

NEVIN, or NEWIN, is seated on the sea-shore, on the west side of the peninsula, almost opposite to the Pulhely, from which it is only eight miles distant. The pier at this place is very useful for the herring fishery, herrings and oysters being the chief commodities of the place. In the year 1747 there were 5000 barrels of salt herrings exported from hence and the parts adjacent, besides what was consumed in the country. They have also cod, whitings, whiting-pollacks

lacks, millers thumbs, ſea tench, lobſters, and crabs. The town itſelf is but mean, though it has a ſmall market on Saturdays, and three fairs, viz. April 4, the Saturday before Whitſuntide, and Auguſt 25, for cattle.

At BORTH, not far from *Newin*, are two fairs held annually, viz. on Auguſt 26, and Oct. 24.

To the eaſt of the ſouth-eaſt promontory, of the peninſula, is an iſland called *Tydwal*, to the north of which, is Tydwal road, thought to be one of the beſt in Great-Britain, being a good outlet, and ſo extenſive that it is large enough to contain the whole royal navy of England. Near it are ſeveral veins of lead and copper ore, and at *Penryn du*, there is a lead mine that has been formerly worked with advantage; but it is now under water, and yet might be recovered with proper engines. At a place called *Mynhedd y Rhiw*, not far from hence, there is found a blackiſh heavy hard ſtone, which is counted more proper than braſs for the center pins of light engines to turn on. And farther on towards Bard-Sey ſound, there is a beautiful red ſtone, which will bear a fine poliſh.

BARDSEY, is a ſmall iſland ſituated near the extremity of the ſouth-weſt promontory of this peninſula. There was an abbey founded here before the year 516; it was dedicated to St. Mary, and continued till the diſſolution, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, when the annual revenue amounted to 146l. 13. 4d.

Caernarvonſhire was in the time of the Romans part of the country of the Ordovices, of whom mention has been made in the article of Angleſea. Britain after the Romans had deſerted it, being overrun by the Danes and Saxons, the Britons retreated to this part of the iſland, which they defended againſt the Engliſh

till the time of Edward the Firſt, when Llewellin ap Griffith was reduced to the neceſſity of holding this county and Angleſea as tenant in fee to the crown, paying one hundred marks yearly; but being ſoon afterwards, anno 1228, inſtigated by his brother David to take up arms, he ſurprized lord Clifford, the king's general on the frontiers, and killing ſeveral of his men, took him priſoner, then penetrating ſtill farther into the Engliſh territories, he defeated the earl of Surrey, who was ſent to ſtop his progreſs, and committed great ravages. King Edward, however, reſolved to march againſt him in perſon, which he accordingly did, and Llewellin retired to the mountain of Snowden, to a poſt that could not be attacked. Edward inveſted him here, blocking up all the avenues by which he could eſcape, and laying a bridge of boats over the Menai, ſent ſome troops over into Angleſea. When this was done, he left the management of the blockade, which was likely to hold long, to Roger Mortimer, waiting the iſſue at the caſtle of Rhudhlan, which he had built during the late war. Llewellin might doubtleſs have tired out the patience of his enemy, had he not, by an extraordinary accident, been induced to deprive himſelf of that advantage. Some of the Engliſh, under William lord Latimer and Thomas de Tony, who were in Angleſea, muſt needs paſs the bridge above mentioned to view the country, when being ſuddenly attacked by the Welch, they were entirely defeated, there being ſlain and drowned no leſs than fifteen knights, thirty two eſquires, and about 1000 common ſoldiers. This ſucceſs induced Llewellyn to march down from Snowdon to engage the Engliſh, but he was ſoon convinced of his raſhneſs, for after ſeeing his army entirely routed

routed at Llandweyr in Buelt, on the eleventh of December, 1182, he was himſelf ſlain on the ſpot by Stephen de Francton, and his head crowned with ivy, was by the king's order expoſed to view on the walls of the tower of London. David was ſoon after taken and executed as a traitor, his head being fixed near that of the prince his brother, and his four quarters ſent to York, Briſtol, Northampton, and Wincheſter; thus by Edward's cruelty, an end was put to the dominion of the Britons in Wales.

John Owen, a noted epigrammiſt, was born at Armon in this county, and educated firſt at Wykeham's ſchool near Wincheſter, and afterwards at New College in Oxford. In 1594, he became maſter of the free ſchool at Warwick, founded by king Henry the Eighth; and this, it ſhould ſeem, was the higheſt preferment he ever obtained. He died 1622, and was buried in St. Paul's cathedral, London. His epigrams were wrote in Latin; but moſt of them have been ſince tranſlated into Engliſh.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THIS county is so denominated from Cambridge, the principal town, which probably took its name from a bridge over the river Cam, which runs thro' it, dividing it into two parts.

CAMBRIDGSHIRE is bounded on the west by Huntingdonshire and Bedfordshire, on the north by Lincolnshire, on the east by Norfolk and Suffolk, and by Essex and Hertfordshire on the south. It is about fifty two miles in length, from north to south, twenty six in breath from east to west, and one hundred and thirty miles in circumference. The principal rivers are the Ouse, which rises in Northamptonshire, and after watering Buckinghamshire and Bedfordshire, runs through this county from west to east, dividing it into two parts, and is navigable from Cambridge to Lynn in Norfolk, where it falls into the ocean. The Cam, probably so called from its crooked course (its name in the British language signifying as much) takes its rise in Hertfordshire, and falls into the Ouse at Streatham Moor, near Thetford, by Ely. There are besides these rivers several very capital drains to carry off the water from the Fens; as the Gleane, the Welland, which comes from Northamptonshire, and runs into the German ocean through the Wash, the Neane, the Grant, the Mildenhall, the Brandon, and the Stoke, besides

ſides Moreton's Leam, now Peterborough river, which is navigable from that city to Wiſbich.

The air in this extenſive track, is damp, foggy, and conſequently aguiſh; but in the ſouthern and eaſtern parts, it is eſteemed very ſalubrious. The ſoil, in ſome few places, is barren, though in general it is a very fruitful country.

A very conſiderable track in the northern part of this county is fenny ground, and is known by the name of the Iſle of Ely. This track extends ſouthward almoſt as far as Cambridge; and the Fens, which are now drained by innumerable cuts and channels, make part of a very ſpacious level, containing 300,000 acres, extending from this county into Norfolk, Suffolk, Huntingdonſhire, Northamptonſhire, and Lincolnſhire. This is called BEDFORD LEVEL, and is bounded on one ſide by the ſea, and on the other by the high lands, which are by ſome thought to bear no very diſtant, though a rude reſemblance to an horſe ſhoe.

William Somerſet, who was a Monk of the abbey of Malmeſbury in Wiltſhire, and on that account called William of Malmeſbury, who wrote in the twelfth century, deſcribes this flat country as little leſs than a terreſtrial paradiſe. According to his account, art ſeemed to vie with nature in adorning this beautiful ſpot; the buildings were elegant, the whole country improved and well wooded, and many fields were here and there interſperſed, planted with vines, for there were at that time many vineyards in England. This hiſtorian might however enlarge rather too much on the beauties of the country, or as he was at that time deſcribing the parts adjacent to Thorney abbey, which were probably in a high ſtate of improvement, he

reaſonably enough be ſuppoſed in this caſe to have aſcribed thoſe beauties to the whole track, which in truth only belonged to the abbey and its neighbourhood; we are the more inclined to entertain this opinion as Abbe Floriacenſis, a celebrated hiſtorian of the year 970, near two hundred years before William of Malmeſbury, in a deſcription of the kingdom of the eaſt angles, of which this county made a part, obſerves, that on the north are large wet fens, which make a conſiderable number of lakes, with a variety of iſlands proper to accommodate many ſocieties of Monks with their beloved ſolitude and retirement.

It is very certain, that the ſtate to which this country was reduced, muſt be owing either to an inundation of the ſea, or what is ſtill more probable, as this extenſive flat ſerves as a drain to carry off the waters from a conſiderable portion of the inland part of the kingdom, the outlets by which ſo large body of water was to be delivered to the ſea, might by ſome accident, perhaps by a violent ſtorm on the coaſt, or the ſhock of an earthquake, be ſo far ſtopped, as to prevent the egreſs of the water from the flat, in proportion to its ingreſs. This muſt of courſe in time occaſion an inundation, and the waters ſtagnating upon ſuch a flat, for want of proper channels to carry them off, became putrid, the air infected, and the ſoil almoſt reduced to the ſtate of a wet bog.

That it was once firm land, is evident, for timber trees of various kinds have been diſcovered rooted on firm earth, beneath the mud, which lay immediately under the water. In ſome places a perfect ſoil has been found at the depth of eight feet, with ſwarthes of graſs, laying on it, as when they were firſt mowed, being overtaken by the

inundation

inundation before they could be removed. When the drains were digging, brick, ſtone, and other materials for building, were frequently found; and at ſetting down a ſluice at the depth of ſixteen feet from the ſurface, there was found a ſmith's forge, with all the tools belonging to it, together with ſeveral horſe-ſhoes and pieces of iron. By this it is evident, that the Moor, or Fen, has, in a long ſeries of years, covered the face of the land, and greatly changed it from what it formerly was. When this change was effected we know not, it became however ſo bad at laſt, that the inhabitants of the neighbouring towns could have no intercourſe one with another by land, and the communication by water was very uncertain; for it was in many places ſo choaked up with mud, ſedge, and reeds, that a boat could not make its way through it, and in winter, when the ſurface was frozen, though not hard enough to bear a man and horſe, the inhabitants of the iſlands in the Fens, have been often in danger of ſtarving. This of courſe produced many complaints, remonſtrances, and petitions, inſomuch, that from the reign of king Henry the Sixth, to that of Charles the Firſt, ſeveral commiſſions of ſewers were granted for clearing and opening the oſtiaries and outfalls of the waters to the ſea, but they all failed of ſucceſs.

At length in the reign of the laſt mentioned prince, Francis earl of Bedford agreed to undertake the draining of this drowned country, provided the inhabitants would grant him for his own uſe 95,000 acres of the land he ſhould drain. The earl admitted ſeveral others as co-partners with him in this undertaking, and they proceeded in the attempt, till, after having ſpent 100,000l they found the land was ſtill

under water. The compleating of the work was then undertaken by the king, for 69,000 acres more; but the civil war, which ſoon after broke out, and his death, which was the conſequence, put a ſtop to the undertaking.

In the year 1649, William, earl of Bedford, together with the other adventures who had been engaged with Francis, reſumed the undertaking, under the original contract, and compleated the work, after expending in the whole above 400,000l. This ruined many of the undertakers as the expence of draining the land amounted to more than the value of the 95,000 acres, they were to have for the doing it.

It was alſo ſtill neceſſary to get the ſanction of parliament, that the contractors might be inveſted with ſuch rights and powers, as might ſecure to them the enjoyment of the advantages they had obtained. An application was therefore made to king Charles the Second, who recommended it to his parliament, and an act was paſſed in the fifteenth year of his reign, intitled, *An Act for ſettling the drains of the great Level of the Fens, called* (from the earls who chiefly effected it) *Bedford Level.*

By virtue of this act, the bounds were ſettled, and a corporation eſtabliſhed for its government and preſervation, by the name, ſtile, and title, of the governors, bailiffs, and commonalty of the company of the conſervators of the great Level of the Fens. They conſiſted of a governor, ſix bailiffs, twenty conſervators, and commonalty, in whom by the ſaid act were inveſted 83,000 acres, part of the 95,000 to be held of the manor of eaſt Greenwich in free and common ſoccage. Of the remaining 12,000, 10,000 were inveſted in the king, who aſſigned them to his brother the duke of York, and the

the remaining 2000 were given to the earl of Portland. The chief officers belonging to this corporation, are a ſurveyor-general and ſuperintendant of all the other officers, and an auditor of the accounts, a regiſterer, receiver, ſerjeant at mace, and ſurveyor of the Level, which is divided into the north, ſouth, and middle parts; the two firſt of which have one ſurveyor each, and the laſt two.

The governor and one bailiff, or two bailiffs without the governor, with three conſervators, make a quorum, and are impowered by this act as commiſſioners of ſewers to lay taxes on the 95,000 acres, and to levy them with penalties for non-payment by a ſale of a ſufficient part of the land on which the tax and penalty are due.

The chief commodities of the county are barley, with which they make a large quantity of malt, cattle, butter, ſaffron, cole ſeed, hemp, fiſh and wild fowl: of wild fowl, there are amazing quantities caught every week, during the ſeaſon, at the decoy ponds, inſomuch that one decoy, not far from Ely, is ſaid to ſend up to London above 3000 couple every week, and the rent of it is 150 l. per annum. The wild-ducks are enticed into theſe decoys by ducks, which have been trained up for that purpoſe. Theſe are conſtantly fed at certain times, and are ſo tame, that they will take their food out of the decoy-mens hands. As they are not confined, they often fly out to ſea in queſt of company, and are ſure ſoon to return with a large train of followers, which they bring to the pond they belong to. When the decoy-men perceive them, they go ſecretly to the pond-ſide under cover of hedges made of reeds placed there for that purpoſe, and throw handfuls of corn into ſuch ſhallows as the decoy-ducks are well

acquainted with, and they firſt eating, prompt the others to do the ſame. This is repeated ſeveral days, till they are inſenſibly led into a narrower part of the pond, where the trees on each ſide hang over like an arbour, and a large net is ſpread near the tops of the trees, at ſuch an heighth, that the fowls perceive not the net. The decoy-men ſtill go on throwing the corn into the water, which the wild fowl, following the example of the tame ducks, feed on, till at laſt they are brought within the ſweep of the net, which grows continually narrower and lower, ending at laſt in a point like a purſe at the diſtance of perhaps two or three hundred yards from the firſt entrance. When the decoymen ſee that they are all got within the compaſs of the net, they ſend a dog, trained for that purpoſe, into the water, who ſwims, barking directly after the ducks, widgeon, teal, &c. which being frighted, immediately take wing, but being beat down by the net, are under a neceſſity of ſwimming forward to avoid the dog, till at laſt, hurried into the purſe, they fall a prey to the decoyman, who is in readineſs to receive them, and who eaſily diſtinguiſhes them from his own tame ducks, which are then to be ſent on another adventure. The principal manufactures of this county, are paper, and wicker ware. There are many uncommon plants met with the moſt remarkable of which, we ſhall enumerate.

Common Stone Baſil, Acinos Multis, J. B. *Thymus floribus verticillatis pedunculus unifloris caulibus erectis ſubramoſis foliis acutis ſerratis.* Lin. Flor. Suec. 478. This plant is found in the plowed land, on the borders of Gogmagog hills, and New-market Heath. The herb-women have frequently

frequently brought it to the markets for the Mountain Poley.

Water Sengreen, or freſh water Soldier, or water Aloe, Stratoites Lin. Flor. Lapp. 222. *Aloe Paluſtris* C. B. p. 280. This grows plentifully in the rivers and fen ditches, in the Iſle of Ely.

Fine leaved Chickweed, Alſine foliis minoribus, is met with on the corn fields of Tripoly Heath.

Long leaved rough Chickweed, with a large flower. Alſine piloſa foliis longioribus flore majore, is frequently met with in ſeveral parts of the county, on heaths, and dry banks, among buſhes, and in gravelly grounds.

Round leaved water Pimpernel, Samolus Tourn. Lin. *Samolus valerandi.* J. B. is found in the ditches, in Trumpington Moors. This herb ranked amongſt the antiſcorbutics.

Female blue flowered Pimpernel, Anagallis cæruleo flore, C. B. This herb is uſed as a reſolvent and detergent, and great power has been aſcribed to the expreſſed juice, firſt depurated by ſettling, and afterwards inſpiſſated to the conſiſtence of an extract. The plant is very rare, but is found near Iliſton, in Cheſterton hundred.

Gooſe Graſs with a ſmooth ſeed, Aparine ſemine lævi. Tourn. Linnæus, makes it a ſpecies of Gallium. It grows commonly among the corn, eſpecially in chalky grounds.

Violet coloured horned Poppy, Glaucium flore violaceo, Tourn. *Chelidonium pedunculis unifloris, foliis pinnatifidis linearibus, caule lævi.* Lin. Sp. Plant. 506. grows in the corn fields between Swafham and Burwell.

Marſh St. Peterſwort, with hoary leaves. Aſcyrum Paluſtre foliis hirſutis. This grows on boggy grounds near Gamlinghay.

Marſh Tway blade, Ophys bifolia prateſis, is alſo found in the ſame places.

Yellow

Yellow ſweet or muſk Orchis, Orchis odorata moſchata ſive monorchis, C. B. *Ophrys bulbo globoſo, caule nudo, nectarii labio trifido*, Act. Upſal. 1740. is found at Cherry-hinton, and in pits above Gogmagog hills.

Green winged humble bee Satyrion, Orchis ſive Teſticulus ſphegodes hirſuto flore. J. B. is found near Shelford, in the foot way from Trumpington.

Fly Orchis, Orchis muſcam referens. C. B. has been found on the banks of the Devil's Ditch, on Newmarket heath.

Dwarf Orchis, Orchis minor Zealandiæ, is found in watery places in Hinton and Feverſham moors.

Little purple flowered Dog ſtone, Orchis minima flore purpureo, grows on Gogmagog hills, and Newmarket heath.

Carline Thiſtle, Carlina Sylveſtris vulgaris, Cluſ. *Carlina caule multifloro corymboſo, floribus terminalibus.* Hort. Cliff. is found in this county.

Wooly headed Thiſtle, or *Friars Crown, Carduus eriocephalus.* Dod. pempt. 723. *Carduus foliis ſeſſilibus bifariam pinnatifidis laciniis alternis erectis, calycibus globoſis villoſis.* Hort. Upſal. 249; this grows about Madingley, Childerley, Kingſton, and other parts of the county.

Maiden Pink, or *Mated Pink, Caryophyllus minor repens*, Raii. This is found near Hilderſham.

Purple flowered great Baſtard Parſley, caucalis major flore purpureo, frequently grows among the corn in this county.

The leaſt cut leaved wild Lettuce, Prenanthes minima foliis dentatis, is found in a little lane near Cambridge, leading from the London road to the River.

Great jagged Fleabane, Conyza major vulgaris C. B. grows in the fen ditches about Merſh and Chateris, in the iſle of Ely.

Marſh Fleabane, or *Birdse Tongue, Conyza paluſtris*, is alſo found in the ſam places.

The leaſt Bindweed, or *Gravel Bindweed*, *Convolvulus minor arvenſis*. C. B. is met with among the corn between Harleſton and little Everſden.

Sweet Willow, *Dutch Myrtle*, or *Gale*, *Gale frutex odoratus Septentrionatium*, J. B. grows in the fens of the iſle of Ely, and is uſually put among cloaths to ſcent them.

Horſetail water Milifoil Achillea, *equiſeta aquatica*, grows in almoſt all parts of the county, in ſlow or ſtagnating water.

Hooded water Millfoil, *Achillea velata aquatica*, is found in ſeveral of the fen ditches.

Buſh-headed horſe-ſhoe Vetch, *Ferrum equinum Germanicum Siliquis in ſummitate*, C. B. *Hippocrepis leguminibus pedunculatis confertis*, *margine exteriore repandis*. Prod. Leyd. 384; grows on Gogmagog hills, and Newmarket heath.

Bloody Craneſbill, *with larger*, *paler*, *and more deeply divided leaves*, *Geranium hæmatodes foliis majoribus pallidis*, *et valde dentatis*, grows on the banks of the Devil's Ditch.

Wild Liquorice, or *Milk Vetch*. *Aſtragalus luteus perennis procumbens vulgaris ſilveſtris*. Mor. Hiſt. 2. 107, is found near the caſtle hill, at Cambridge.

Mountain Cudweed, or *Catsfoot*. *Elichryſum montanum longiore*, *et folio*, *et flore albo*, Tourn. grows on Newmarket heath.

Herb Paris, *True-love* or *One berry*, *Paris foliis quaternis*. Flor. Lapp. 155, is found in Kingſton and Everſden Woods.

The everlaſting Pea, or *chichling Vetch*, *Lathyrus latifolius*. C. B. grows naturally in Maiderly Wood.

Wild perennial blue Flax, *with larger heads and flowers*, *Linum perenne*, *majus cæruleum*, *capitulo majore*. Mor. Hiſt. 2. 573, grows on the borders of the corn fields, about Gogmagog hills.

Wild

Wild perennial blue Flax, with ſmaller heads and flowers, Linum perenne, cæruleum capitulo et flore minore, is alſo found in the ſame part of the county.

Medic vetchling, Cockſhead, or *wild Saintfoin, Onobrychis Sylveſtris*, grows on Gogmagog hills.

Great Burnet Saxifrage, Tragoſe linum majus, umbellâ Candidâ, Tourn. is found in copſes, about Hatley St. George.

Common or Engliſh Paſque flower, Pulſatilla folio craſſiore et majore flore, C. B. *Pulſatilla foliis decompoſitis, pinnatis, flore nutante, limbo erecto.* Hort. Cliff. 223, grows in plenty on Gogmagog hills.

Water Germander, Scordium, C. B. *Tencrium foliis oblongis ſeſſilibus dentato ſerratis, floribus geminis axillaribus caule diffuſo.* Lin. Sp. Plant. 565, is found in many ditches in the iſle of Ely. The leaves of this plant are recommended as alexipharmics and coroborants, in malignant and putrid diſorders, and in laxities of the inteſtines. They are alſo ſometimes externally employed in antiſeptic cataplaſms and fomentations.

The leſſer meadow Rue, Thalictrum minus, C. B. *Thalictrum foliis ſexpartitis, floribus cernuis.* Lin. Sp. Plant. 546.

Deadly Night Shade. Solanum Lethale, Clus. *Belladona majoribus foliis et floribus*, Tourn. *Atrope caule herbaceo, foliis ovatis integris*, Lin. Sp. Plant. 181. This noxious plant which is a ſtrong poiſon, grows in the lanes about Fulborn.

Sage leaved black Mullein, Verbaſcum nigrum flore ex luteo purpuraſcente, C. B. *Verbaſcum foliis ſerratis ſuperne rugoſis, infernè ſubhirſutis, petiolis ramoſis ſtaminam barbâ purpuraſcente*, Haller. Helvet. 511, is found in many places about Gogmagog hills.

Upright

Upright male Speedwell, Veronica Mas erecta, C. B. grows in ſeveral places on Newmarket heath. This plant is rare in England, but grows naturally in many parts of France and Germany.

The true Saffron, Crocus Sativus, C. B. *Crocus ſpathâ univalvi radiculi, corollæ tubo longiſſimo*, Lin. Sp. Plant. 36, is cultivated in this county, and is a plant of much value. It is always planted on a fallow, and to chooſe, on land which has borne barley for the laſt crop. The land on which it is planted ſhould be well expoſed, and the ſoil not poor, nor a very ſtiff clay; but a temperate, dry mould, ſuch as commonly lies upon chalk, and of an hazel colour; though the colour is not always attended to. About the beginning of April it is well plowed, in narrow deep furrows, and about May they lay on between 20 and 30 load of dung on an acre, as rotten as poſſible, which is carefully ſpread and plowed in. About Midſummer the land is plowed a third time, and between every ſixteen feet and an half breadth, they leave a broad furrow or trench, which ſerves to throw the weeds in at a proper ſeaſon. The ground muſt be fenced round with dead hedges or hurdles, to keep out cattle and hares. The next thing is planting the roots, which is done with a narrow ſpade, called a ſpit ſhovel. The time for doing it is the month of July. The plants are ſet at about 3 inches diſtance from each other, and the ſame depth; the only nicety in digging is to leave ſome part of the firſt ſtratum of earth untouched, to lie under the roots; and, in ſetting, to place the roots directly on their bottoms. The quantity of roots planted on an acre, is generally about 16 quarters, or 128 buſhels. In September they begin to ſpire, which may be known by digging up a few roots; the ground muſt then be pared with a ſharp hoe, and

the

the weeds raked into the furrows. Some time after the flowers appear, which yield but little saffron the first year, more the second, and most of all the third. About twenty six pounds in the three years, of neat saffron from one acre is about the mean quantity. The expences in the three years amount to about twenty three pounds twelve shillings, so that reckoning the mean price of saffron to be thirty shillings per pound, the neat profits of an acre of ground in the three years, will be fifteen pounds thirteen shillings, or about five pounds four shilling a year, besides the savings, by employing some of the grower's own family in doing a part of the work.

After having taken what we think proper notice of the climate, soil, draining of the Fenny part of this county, and its produce, we shall now proceed to a particular description of its several parts.

This county is in the province of Canterbury, and diocese of Ely, and is divided into seventeen hundreds, in which are contained one city, one borough, with a celebrated university, seven other market towns, one hundred and sixty three parishes, about 17,000 houses, and 140,000 inhabitants. It sends six members to parliament, viz. two for the county, two for the university, and two for Cambridge.

On entering this county by the road which leads from London to Cambridge, the first town is ROYSTON, which is partly in this county. and partly in Hertfordshire, nineteen miles south of Huntingdon, thirty eight north of London, and one hundred and fifty four south of York. It is a well known market town, said to have been built since the conquest, and long known by the name of *Royses Cross*, from one Roysia, a famous lady, supposed by some to be

Roysia,

counteſs of Norfolk. She erected a croſs where the town now ſtands, which in thoſe days was thought to be a pious work. After this, Euſtachius de Mark founded a ſmall monaſtery dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury. This occaſioned many pilgrims to reſort hither, for whoſe entertainment, ſeveral inns and houſes were built. At length it became a town called Royſes's town, which by contraction came to be named Royſton. It is ſeated at the meeting of two great Roman roads, one of which is called Icening ſtreet, and the other Hermen ſtreet. Icening ſtreet, is that which runs through Ware park to this town, and Hermen ſtreet paſſes to it from Dunſtable, and runs into Suffolk. Dr. Stukely is of opinion, that a ſtump of Royſe's croſs is ſtill to be ſeen at the corner of the inn, juſt where the two roads meet. Richard the Firſt granted to this town a fair and a market, which laſt is much frequented on account of buying and ſelling barley and malt. Many ſtrangers, and eſpecially the ſcholars at their coming to Cambridge, take notice of an uncommon bird, called a Royſton crow, which has its head, throat, breaſt, and wings black; but the reſt of the body is aſh-coloured. This bird is alſo common about Newmarket, as well as in other parts of Cambridgeſhire. The town is pretty large and well inhabited, though it ſtands low among the reeds, and it has ſeveral very good inns. It was almoſt burnt down in the reign of Henry the Fourth, and in 1747, it likewiſe ſuffered greatly by fire. Its church has ſeveral fine monuments: this ſtructure, at the time of the diſſolution, was a monaſtery of canons regular, but was purchaſed by the inhabitants, and made parochial. It was dedicated to St. Thomas the Martyr, but now to St. John the Baptiſt. When

it

it was made parochial, there were five parishes reduced into one, by which means the rectory is of very great value; the patronage is in the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, and the rector for the time being, is lord of the manor. Not long since was discovered here, almost under the market place, a subterranean chapel of Roysia above mentioned; it has several altars and images cut out of the chalky sides, and is in form of a sugar loaf, having no entrance but at the top. Corn was so plentiful here, in the reign of Henry Sixth, that the best wheat sold for one shilling per quarter, or three half-pence a bushel. Royston is thought to have been a Roman town on account of the many coins found near it, and on almost every eminence near it is a barrow. The market is on Wednesdays, and has it five fairs, viz. on Ash-Wednesday, Wednesday in Easter week, Whit-Wednesday, the first Wednesday in July, and the Wednesday after September 29, for all sorts of cattle. It gives the title of Viscount to the earl of Hardwicke.

SHENGAY, which lies between four or five miles to the north-west of Royston, is a village remarkable for having near it the most pleasant meadows in the whole county. Not far from hence stood Burne castle, which was burnt down in the wars between the barons and king Henry the Third, by Ribald de Insula. There was also at Shengay, a precentory of Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, given to that order in the year 1130 by Sibylla de Roynes, daughter of Roger de Montgomery, earl of Shrewsbury, which was worth at the suppression 171l. 4s. 6d. per annum.

FULMERE, or FOULMERE, in another road to Cambridge, is seated near the southern boundary of the county, about three miles north-east

of

of Royſton, and is only remarkable for its quarries of free ſtone, which produce plenty of vitriol.

About four miles to the eaſt of the road to Cambridge, and ſeven from Fulmere, is ICKLETON, which ſeems evidently to derive its name from the *Iceni*, the ancient inhabitants of this part of the iſland. At thisplace Aubrey de Vere, the firſt earl of Oxford, in the time of Henry the Second, or Sir William de Cantelupe, father to Euphemia, his firſt wife, founded a benedictine monaſtery, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. There was in it at the diſſolution, a prioreſs and eleven nuns, and the annual revenue amounted to 71l. 9s. 10d.

TRIPLOW is a village about two miles to the north of Fulmere, and ſix to the north-eaſt of Royſton. Here Elias Rubæus, a noted author in king Henry the Third's time was born, who wrote a treatiſe *contra nobilitatem inanem*; but it is of much more note, as being the place where, in 1648, Oliver Cromwell influenced the army to let the parl ament know that they would be maſters, and here the ſcheme of the agitators was formed.

MELDRITH, about three miles to the weſt, and near the direct road from London to Cambridge, is of ſome note, as being the birth-place of Mr. Andrew Marvel, miniſter of Hull, father to Andrew Marvel, Eſq;, who flouriſhed in the reign of Charles the Second, and was much admired for his wit, great parts, and inflexible patriotiſm and integrity.

WITTLEFORD, or WIDFORD, is a mile and about three quarters to the eaſt of the road to Cambridge, and three miles to the ſouth eaſt of that town, gives name to the hundred in which it ſtands. At the bridge here, called ſometimes

ſometimes Burnbridge, in the road from London to Newmarket, there was an hoſpital dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, as early as the time of Edward the Firſt, it ſeems to have been built by one William Colville.

About two miles to the north-weſt of WITTLEFORD, and two and an half from the road to Cambridge, is SAWSTON, noted for the family of Huddleſton's, one of which, Sir John Huddleſton, entertained queen Mary in a private manner at his houſe in this village, from whence ſhe rode behind his ſervant to Franklinham-caſtle in Suffolk, where ſhe firſt openly laid claim to the crown of England.

GRANTCESTER, or GRANTCHESTER, is a village about two miles ſouth-weſt of Cambridge, but in the time of venerable Bede, was a ſmall but almoſt deſerted city, ſome have taken it for the Camboritum of Antoninus.

TRUMPINGTON almoſt joins to Cambridge. There is here a place called Dam hill, where great numbers of human bones have been from time to time found, and many urns, pateras and other Roman antiquities; it might not improbably be a Roman burying place, poſſibly to Camboritum, which undoubtedly was ſituated very near it.

CAMBRIDGE, diſtinguiſhed by its celebrated univerſity, is ſituated fifty miles to the north-eaſt of London, and fifteen from Royſton; and here all the principal roads in the county meet. It was called by the Saxons *Grantanbricge*. Several authors would have it to be the *Camboritum* of Antoninus, which in all our late ſurveys is fixed in Eſſex. Horſeley is of opinion, that its name in the Itenerary was *Durolipus*, becauſe it agrees with the diſtances from other ſtations, and he thinks it terminates all the differences about this part of the itenerary. This author obſerves

The East View of Cambridge Castle.

Vol. I. Page 237.

obſerves, that the military way, which is very viſible near Gogmagoghills, which points towards Grantcheſter: but in this he was deceived; for Dr. Gale, who viewed the ſpot with great attention, ſays, in ſome notes on this ſubject, in his own hand writing now in our poſſeſſion, that this road points directly to Cambridge.

The river CAM forms on the weſt ſide of the town, ſeveral ſmall iſlands, and turning eaſtward, divides it into two parts, which being joined together by a bridge, was the occaſion of its being called Cambridge. It is now a large town, and contains fourteen pariſh churches. The tower of one of them named Fulborn All Saints, fell down in the year 1766, and greatly damaged the body of the church. Cambridge is not very pleaſantly ſeated, becauſe it lies low, and is conſequently dirty. It is very ancient, has been frequently mentioned by the oldeſt hiſtorians of Britain, and is ſaid to have been a nurſery of learning in the earlieſt days of Chriſtianity, and, as ſome pretend five hundred years before Oxford; but this is diſputed. It ſuffered greatly in the time of the Danes, who kept a ſtrong garriſon here, but that which is now called the caſtle, was only the gatehouſe, which now ſerves for a county goal. Of this gatehouſe an engraved plate is annexed. The old caſtle was ſo large that eighteen houſes was demoliſhed to clear a plat of ground for its ſituation. It ſtood on an adjoining artificial hill, ſurrounded formerly with a deep intrenchment, and was antiently a ſtrong and ſtately place, in which among other curious rooms, it had a hall admired for its magnificence. But inland caſtles, becoming in proceſs of time, an offence to our kings, king Henry the Sixth ordered it to be demoliſhed; and

with

with the materials was built the greateſt part of King's College chapel.

Cambridge, has often been on the verge of ruin, having ſuffered ſeveral devaſtations, in particular by the Danes in 1010, by Roger de Montgomery, in the reign of William the Second, and in the Barons wars. It was incorporated by Henry the Firſt, and is governed by a mayor, high-ſteward, recorder, twelve aldermen, &c. The mayor, at the entrance into his office, takes an oath to maintain the privileges and cuſtoms of the univerſity; which (though the town is large, having fourteen pariſhes, as is already noticed) is the chief glory of the place, and is ſaid to have been founded before the birth of Chriſt. However it was certainly a ſchool of learning in the year 630, under Sebert king of the Eaſt-Angles. In ſucceeding times it was much neglected, but revived under the Normans in the reign of Henry the Firſt, and was much obliged to Geoffry, abbot of Crowland. Many halls were then built for the uſe of ſtudents where they lived at their own expence, whence ſprang ſome of the preſent ſixteen colleges; though four of them are called halls, yet they are all incorporated and endowed. The moſt antient is Peter-Houſe College, founded in the year 1257, and the lateſt is Sidney Suſſex College, founded in 1589. The public ſchools (ſquare buildings with an area in the midſt) were erected in the reigns of Henry the Sixth, and Edward the Fourth, and beautified by Rotherham archbiſhop of York, Tunſtal biſhop of Durham, and others. The Univerſity library takes up all the buildings over the four ſides of that quadrangle. Beſides other collections, king George the Firſt, purchaſed the valuable library of Dr. Moore late biſhop of

of Ely, conſiſting of 30,000 volumes, and preſented it to this univerſity.

Of late years was erected a beautiful ſtone edifice, in which the ſenate meet to confer degrees, and tranſact other buſineſs.

In the centre of the ſouth ſide of this ſenate-houſe, oppoſite a fine ſtatue of George the Firſt, erected by the two laſt viſcounts Townſhend, his grace the duke of Newcaſtle, the preſent chancellor, has erected a noble ſtatue of his late majeſty George the Second. On the front of the pedeſtal is the following inſcription:

GEORGIO SECUNDO
Patrono ſuo, optime merenti,
Semper venerando;
Quod volenti populo,
Inſtitiſſimé Humaniſſime,
In pace, & in bello.
Feliciter imperavit;
Quod academiam Cantabrigienſem
Fovit, aüxit, ornavit;
Hanc Statuam
Æternum, faxit Deus, Monumentum,
Grati Animi in Regem,
Pietatis in Patriam,
Amoris in Academium,
Suis ſumptibus, poni curavit,
THOMAS HOLLES
Dux de Newcaſtle.
Academiæ Cancellarius,
A. D. M.DCC.LXVI.

Trinity College library, erected on columns, is an elegant building, and King's College chapel a moſt grand piece of gothic architecture. Clare hall, and King's College both new buildings, are

are alſo remarkably beautiful. We ſhall proceed to give a particular account of the noble colleges in this univerſity.

The names of the colleges, are Peterhouſe, Clare-hall, Pembroke-hall, Corpus Chriſti, or Benedict college, Trinity hall, Gonville and Caius college, King's college, Queen's college, Catherine hall, Jeſus college, Chriſt's college, St. John's college, Magdalen college, Trinity college, Emanuel college, and Sidney-Suſſex college.

Peterhouſe, the firſt college built in Cambridge, was founded by Hugh Balſham, firſt Prior, and afterwards biſhop of Ely, and was built near St. Peter's church without Trompington gate, from whence it had its name. He endowed it with a maintenance for one maſter, fourteen fellows, two bible clerks, and eight poor ſcholars, ſeveral biſhops of the ſame ſee, and others have been great benefactors to this houſe, inſomuch, that there are now one maſter, twenty two fellows, and forty two ſcholars maintained therein. They have a chapel built ſome years ago by Dr. Matthew Wren, biſhop of Ely, and the contributions of other pious perſons. It is ſeated at the ſouth-weſt end of the town, and is a large ſquare building.

St Peter's church abovementioned, about the year 1352 loſt its name, for about that time a beautiful chancel was added to it, which being dedicated to St. Mary, the whole church was from that time called St. Mary's, and the college has been ſometimes called St. Mary's college, and the Hall of St. Mary of Grace.

Clare hall was firſt founded in the year 1326, by Richard Bedew, afterwards chancellor of the univerſity, who purchaſed ſome houſes, and converting them into a college, called it Univerſity,

verſity hall. He placed in it a principal, but the ſcholars lived at their own expence. About ſixteen years afterwards, this building happened to be burnt down, and the founder finding himſelf unable to rebuild it, was aſſiſted in it by the lady Elizabeth Clare, counteſs of Ulſter, third ſiſter and co-heireſs of Gilbert, earl of Clare, by whom being rebuilt, it was henceforward called Clare hall, and was in 1347 endowed by her with revenues for one maſter, ten fellows, and ten ſcholars. It is at preſent one of the neateſt, and moſt uniform houſes in the univerſity, being built three ſtories high with free-ſtone. It is of the doric order, and reaches to the ſide of the river Cam. A lofty gatehouſe adorned with two rows of pillars leads into the court, and adjoining to it is another building, in the upper ſtory of which is the library, and in the lower the chapel. On the other ſide of the river, is a meadow belonging to this college, which communicates with it by a bridge. It has now a maſter, eighteen fellows, and ſixty three ſcholars.

Pembroke hall was founded in the year 1343, by Mary de St. Paulo, third wife of Aumure, Audomar, or Adomare de Valence, earl of Pembroke; ſhe is ſaid to have been the ſame day, maid, wife and widow; the earl being killed at a tilting on his wedding day. In the year 1347 ſhe finiſhed and endowed this hall for the maintenance of a maſter, and ſuch a number of fellows and ſcholars, as the maſter and fellows for the time being ſhould think beſt proportioned to the revenue. This building is no ways remarkable. It is now by ſubſequent benefactions enabled to ſupport a maſter, five fellows, and eighteen ſcholars.

Bennet college, otherwiſe called Corpus Chriſti college, was founded in the year 1344, by the

brethren of the gild, or ſociety of Corpus Chriſti, and of St. Mary. The college was founded by the biſhop of Ely, on the 3d of February, 1353, and in the ſame year, Henry Plantagenet, duke of Lancaſter, called Henry of Monmouth, was choſen provoſt, who obtained for them, from Henry III. many valuable privileges. The revenues were afterwards wonderfully encreaſed, by various benefactions, inſomuch that this college now maintains a maſter twelve fellows, and forty ſcholars, It conſiſts of a long ſquare building, with two courts, and two rows of lodgings; and the chapel and library are under the ſame roof.

In the reign of Edward III. John Craudene, prior of Ely, purchaſed an hoſpital in Cambridge, which he appropriated to the uſe of ſuch monks of Ely, as ſhould come to Cambridge, to improve their learning. This was afterwards, in the year 1347, obtained by William Bateman, biſhop of Norwich, in exchange for the advowſons of certain rectories. On the ſide of this hoſpital he founded a hall, which he dedicated to the holy and undivided Trinity, and being a great maſter of civil and canon law, the maſter, two fellows, and three ſcholars, (except one divine) were conſtrained to follow thoſe ſtudies. It is now by a large encreaſe of the revenues, able to maintain, a maſter, twelve fellows, and fourteen ſcholars.

Trinity hall is but an irregular building, yet has a chapel, library, and hall, with convenient lodgings, and a garden encloſed by a brick wall.

Edmund de Gonvil, rector of Teddington, in Norfolk, who in the abſence of Bateman, biſhop of Norwich, was appointed his vicar, in the year 1348,

1348, founded a college in the place which is now the orchard and tennis court of Bennet college, which being finiſhed, Gonvil placed in it a warden, and four fellows, whom he maintained during his life; when he died he left a conſiderable ſum of money to biſhop Bateman, in truſt, to improve and endow this college; whereupon Bateman erected a new building, on the ſpot where Gonvil and Caius college now ſtands, which was then called Gonvil hall. In 1565, John Caius, doctor of phyſic, who had been many years a celebrated reader of phyſic, at Padua, in Italy, and phyſician to queen Mary, being maſter of Gonvil hall, added a new fabric to it, endowing it alſo with lands of a conſiderable value, from which time it was called Gonvil and Caius college. It has now a maſter, 26 fellows, 12 of the firſt rank, and 14 of the ſecond, and 74 ſcholars.

King's college was founded by Henry VI. in 1441. It was at firſt but ſmall, being intended only for a rector, and 12 ſcholars. Near this ſmall building was a little hotel, for Grammarians, founded by William Bingham, and two churches, St. Nicholas, and St. Zachary. Bingham granted his foundation to the king, who having added to it the two churches, founded this college, which he called the college of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary, and the glorious confeſſor, St. Nicholas. It was intended for a regular quadrangle, but Henry VI. did not compleat it, on account of the confuſion of the times. Henry VII. afterwards carried on the building, and Henry VIII. brought it to it's preſent ſtate. It now maintains a maſter, 50 fellows, and 20 ſcholars. The chapel belonging to this college is ſaid to be one of the fineſt rooms in the world,

though it arrived at it's perfection, at different times, and by different artiſts. The choir is ornamented with elegant pieces of carving, and the windows are very curiouſly painted. It is 304 feet long, 73 broad, and 94 feet high, on the outſide; and the roof, which is of free ſtone, as well as the walls, is ſupported without a pillar.

Queen's college was founded in the year 1448, by Margaret of Anjou, wife of Henry VI. near the monaſtery of Carmelite friars, and ſhe endowed it with 200l. per ann. for the maintenance of a maſter and four fellows, but the confuſion of the times prevented her accompliſhing all ſhe propoſed to perform. Andrew Ducket the firſt maſter, with great induſtry, procured large ſums of money to be given toward finiſhing this work, and what is moſt remarkable, perſuaded Elizabeth, wife of Edward IV. to compleat, in 1465, what her profeſſed enemy Margaret had begun. This ſame Andrew Ducket continued warden or maſter of the college forty years, and obtained many conſiderable benefactions to it, from the duke of Clarence, the dutcheſs of York, and particularly from Richard III. who, among other donations, gave it the inheritance of John Vere, earl of Oxford, whoſe eſtate he had ſeized for his adherence to the houſe of Lancaſter; but this eſtate was reſtored to the family, by Henry VII. when he came to the throne. This college is not very large, yet is it by far the pleaſanteſt in the univerſity, it being delightfully ſeated, and having convenient lodgings, and agreeable walks, orchards, and gardens. Theſe advantages perhaps, induced the celebrated Eraſmus, to choſe it for his laſt retreat. It now maintains a maſter, nineteen fellows, twelve bible clerks, 4 greek ſcholars, 40 ſcholars of the houſe, beſides lecturers in hebrew, arithmatic, and geometry.

Catherine

Catherine hall, was founded in the year 1459, by Robert Woodlarke, doctor of divinity, third provoſt of King's college, and chancellor of the univerſity, over againſt the houſe of Carmelites; he dedicated it to St. Catherine, and endowed it for a maſter and three fellows, but the revenues have been ſince ſo greatly encreaſed, that it now maintains a maſter, ſix fellows, and 30 ſcholars. About one half of this college was new built, not many years ſince, and it now equals in point of regularity, moſt others in the univerſity.

Jeſus college was founded in the year 1497, by doctor John Alcock, biſhop of Ely, who obtained a licence of Henry VII. to convert an old Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to St. Radegund, into a college, the nuns being notorious for their incontinence. The biſhop dedicated it to the Bleſſed Virgin Mary, St. John the Evangeliſt, and St. Radegund, and eſtabliſhing in it a maſter, ſix fellows, and ſix ſcholars, committed it to the perpetual protection of the biſhops of Ely. At preſent it's revenues are ſufficient to maintain a maſter, ſixteen fellows, and thirty-one ſcholars.

Chriſt's college, was in part, founded by Henry VI. but endowed by Margaret, counteſs of Richmond, mother to Henry VII. When the firſt mentioned king removed the hoſtel, which had been granted him by Bingham, and which was called God's houſe, to make room for the foundation of King's college, he aſſigned to the ſcholars of that hoſtel, an houſe belonging to the monks of Tilſey and Denny, who came thither to ſtudy, and called it the college of the houſe of God, intending to have endowed it for 60 ſcholars, but was prevented by the ſame commotions, which hind ered his finiſhing King's college. However in the

year 1506, Margaret above-mentioned, endowed this college with revenues, ſufficient to maintain a maſter, twelve fellows, and forty-ſeven ſcholars, which, at the beginning of the reformation, being by ſome thought to allude to Chriſt and the twelve Apoſtles, king Edward VI. added a thirteenth fellowſhip. This college, ſince the erection of the new buildings, is elegant and commodious, and now maintains fifteen fellows, and fifty ſcholars.

St. John's college, a large building containing three courts, was founded by the executors of the ſame lady Margaret, who in purſuance of her will, obtained from the king, the ſite and lands belonging to an old hoſpital for canons regular, founded in the year 1134, by Nigellus ſecond biſhop of Ely, which hoſpital was by Hugh de Balſham, converted into a priory, dedicated to St. John, and afterwards by the executors of Margaret into a college, called after the ſame Saint, the counteſs having endowed it with a revenue ſufficient for the ſupport of a provoſt, 50 fellows, and 50 ſcholars, but it now maintains a maſter, 54 fellows, and 100 ſcholars.

Magdalen college was at firſt only a hall, conſiſting of three houſes, and was called Monk's hall, becauſe it was reſorted to by monks, from different monaſteries, but in the year 1519, theſe houſes were purchaſed by Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, and converted to the uſe of the univerſity, under the name of Buckingham college. In the year 1542, Thomas lord Audley lord chancellor of England, endowed this college with lands belonging to the priory of the Holy Trinity of London, and called it the college of St. Mary Magdalen. The buildings of this college with it's revenue were conſiderably enlarged by

by Sir Chriſtopher Wrey, ſome time lord chief juſtice of England. Before this the revenues were only ſufficient to maintain a maſter, five fellows, one ſcholar, and three ſervitors, but it has now a maſter, thirteen fellows, and thirty ſcholars. The college ſtands on the north-weſt ſide of the river, ſeparated from all the reſt.

The college, or houſe of St. Michael the archangel, was founded by Hervey Stanton, canon of St. Peter's at York, and chanceller of the exchequer to Edward the Second, in the year 1324. This was a regular college, the fellows of it taking their degrees in the public ſchools.

King's Hall was founded and endowed by king Henry the Third, in the year 1376, and the fellows of it alſo took their degrees in the univerſity as fellows of a college.

Phyſwick Hoſtel, or Hall, was the dwelling-houſe of William Phyſwick, Eſq; beadle of the univerſity, who converted it into a little College, and gave it to Gonvil Hall in the year 1393, to receive ſuch ſcholars as that houſe could not accommodate.

The above three ancient Halls, were by Henry the Eight, in the year 1546, converted into a noble college, which was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and the above king endowed it with revenues ſufficient to maintain a provoſt, ſixty fellows, forty ſcholars, and ten Almoner orators, reſerving to himſelf and his ſucceſſors the right of appointing the warden. Queen Mary added to this college a revenue of 376l. 10s. and in the reign of queen Elizabeth, Nevill dean of Canterbury, the eighth maſter of this college, expended three thouſand pounds in repairing and enlarging the old court, and building a new one now called Nevill's court. There has been lately elected here, a library, ſupported

by rows of pillars. It is of free ſtrone, and is ſaid to be one of the nobleſt and moſt elegant ſtructures of the kind in the univerſe. There are alſo belonging to this college, three Royal profeſſors, a library keeper, four conducts, twenty alms-men and other officers, beſides ſixty-five fellows, and ninety one ſcholars, which at preſent it maintains.

Sir William Mildmay, who was chancellor and treaſurer of the exchequer to queen Elizabeth, in the year 1584, converted a dwelling-houſe (which had been formerly a convent of Dominicans founded in the year 1280 by Alice, counteſs of Oxford) into a college dedicated to Emanuel, and endowed it for the maintenance of a maſter, three fellows, and four ſcholars. The revenues have been ſince greatly augmented, for it now maintains a maſter, fourteen fellows, and ſixty ſcholars. It has a very neat chapel, built by the munificence of archbiſhop Sancroft, who had formerly been maſter of the college, and others.

The Lady Frances Sydney, counteſs of Suffolk, in the year 1589, left five thouſand pounds to build and endow a college for a maſter, ten fellows, and twenty ſcholars. The college was accordingly built, upon the ſite of a monaſtery of Franciſcans, which had been founded by king Edward the Firſt, but the ſum bequeathed by the counteſs, was inſufficient to anſwer the purpoſes of her will, yet her executors, Henry Grey, earl of Kent, and John lord Harrington, ſo far made up the deficiency, that the college immediately received, a maſter, eight fellows, and twenty ſcholars. Sir Francis Clerk was afterwards a great benefactor to this college, by making large additions to the buildings, augmenting the old ſcholarſhips, and founding four fellowſhips

lowſhips and eight ſcholarſhips more; and Sir John Brereton left it by will above two thouſand pounds. It now maintains a maſter, twelve fellows, and twenty eight ſcholars.

The ſcholars abovementioned in the preceeding accounts of the ſeveral colleges, are all upon the foundation, beſides which, there are two ſorts of ſtudents called fellow commoners, and commoners. The firſt are generally the ſons of the nobility and rich gentry, and receive their name from their dining with the fellows; the commoners diet with the ſcholars, but both at their own expence. There are alſo a conſiderable number of poor ſcholars, called Sizars, who wait upon the fellows, ſcholars, and penſioners of both ranks, by whom they are in a great degree maintained. The number of theſe it is impoſſible to aſcertain, being in a ſtate of perpetual fluctuation.

The univerſity, by a ſpecial grant from Henry the Sixth, has the previlege of printing books of every kind at their own preſs.

Every College has its own peculiar library, each of which is well ſtocked with books, eſpecially Trinity and St. John's; beſides theſe, there is the univerſity library already-mentioned. Every college has alſo its own chapel as before obſerved, where morning and evening prayer are read. The public ſermons are preached at St. Mary's on all Sundays and holydays.

In 1724, his late majeſty eſtabliſhed a profeſſor of modern hiſtory, and modern language in this univerſity, with a ſalary of forty pounds a year to himſelf, and two perſons under him qualified to inſtruct youth in theſe branches of learning. Twenty ſcholars are to be nominated by the king, each of which are obliged to learn

two modern languages at leaſt. Dr. Woodward, a profeſſor of Greſham College, London, alſo left a ſum of money to maintain a profeſſor of natural philoſophy, with a proviſion of an hundred and fifty pounds a year for ever. Dr. Addingbroke likewiſe left four thouſand pounds towards building and furniſhing an hoſpital for the cure of poor diſeaſed people, of which charity, the maſters and fellows of Catherine Hall are truſtees.

Pythagoras's ſchool in Cambridge, was the dwelling houſe of Merton, founder of a College of that name in Oxford: whence it had its name is uncertain; whether a ſociety of gentlemen might not meet here, or live here in a Pythagorean manner, not unlike a college life; or whether the mathematicks, morals, or other philoſophy of Pythagoras, might not have been held or taught here, in oppoſition to the general philoſophy of thoſe times, are rather to be taken as probable conjectures, than to be admitted as certain. It now belongs to Merton college abovementioned.

The town of Cambridge is taken notice of in Doomſday book, and was then divided into ten wards, containing three hundred and eighty ſeven houſes. After the Conqueror's death, Roger de Montgomery deſtroyed it with fire and ſword, to be revenged on William Rufus; inſomuch that the univerſity was entirely abandoned. However king Henry the Firſt beſtowed many privileges upon it, exempted it from the power of the ſheriff, and made it a corporation, in conſideration of the annual payment of one hundred marks into the exchequer, it being the ſame ſum that the ſheriff paid before for the profits of the town; he alſo ordered that the merchants of the Guild in Cambridge ſhould be free

free from all toll, paſſage, laſtage, portage, and ſtallage in all the fairs in his dominions on this ſide, and beyond the ſeas. In the Barons wars, the outlaws who had taken refuge in the iſle of Ely, frequently plundered it till Henry III. fortified it by a deep ditch on the eaſt ſide of the town, which ſtill goes by the name of the king's ditch. Wat Tyler and Jack Straw, in the rebellion againſt king Richard the Second, entered the town, and burnt all the records of the univerſity in the market place. In the reigns of William the Firſt and Second, there were a great number of Jews here, who continued in the town for ſeveral generations. They inhabited that part of it now called the Jewry, and the round church is thought to have been their ſynagogue.

Perhaps it will not be amiſs to take notice of Hebden, a noted carrier, in the reign of king James the Firſt, who got a great eſtate, and not only relieved the poor of this town, but built a public ſchool and conduit in the market-place. Milton informs us, that he fell ſick when he was forbid to go to London on account of the Plague that raged in that city. There are three charity ſchools for teaching above three hundred children, fifty of whom are cloathed and maintained by ſubſcription, aſſiſted by an eſtate left by Mr. Wortes, who alſo left money to compleat a fine road about four miles in length, from this town to Gogmagog hills. Adjoining to the town hall, there is a new ſhire hall, built at the expence of the county, the market days are Wedneſdays and Saturdays, and there is one fair on June 24 for horſes, wood, and earthen ware.

Beſides the religious houſes in Cambridge abovementioned, to be converted into Colleges, there were ſeveral others: as a houſe of mendi-

cant

cant friars called Bethlemites, founded in Trumpington ſtreet, about the year 1257: in the ſame ſtreet was an houſe and church of Friars *de penetentia Jeſu Chriſti*, founded by Henry the Third, which continued till the order was ſuppreſſed at the council of Lyons in 1307. Sometime before the year 1275, a priory of Blackfriars predicant was founded in this town by diverſe devout people, which was greatly enlarged by Alice, widow of Robert de Vere ſecond earl of Oxford. Sir Jeffery Pitcheford founded an houſe of fryers Heremits of the order of St. Auguſtine about the year 1290 in or near the Peas market, and the next year ſome white canons from Sempringham ſettled themſelves at the old chapel of St. Edmund the King, granted to them by B. fil. Walteri.

In the reign of William the Firſt, one Pigot, a Norman, founded the monaſtery of St. Giles in Cambrige, to fulfill the vow of Hugolin his wife. It was built near the caſtle, but Pigot and his wife both dying before it was finiſhed, it went afterwards to decay, and was given to Paganus Peverel, who in conſequence founded the monaſtery of Barnwell.

Cambridge has antiently given the title of earl to many illuſtrious perſons, and in the laſt and preſent, centuries to ſeveral of the royal family. His late majeſty George the Second, was, by queen Anne, created marquis and duke of Cambridge, when he was electoral prince of Brunſwick and Lunenburgh, on November 9, 1706.

John Cheke, a learned and ingenious writer of the Sixteenth century, was born at Cambridge on the ſixteenth of June 1514, and educated at St. John's College in that univerſity, where he became profeſſor of Greek, and maintained a long and ſucceſsful diſpute with Dr. Gardener

Gardener, biſhop of Wincheſter, concerning the pronunciation of the Greek tongue. In 1544, he was ſent for to court, and appointed jointly with Sir Anthony Cooke, preceptor to prince Edward; and he is likewiſe ſaid to have had ſome ſhare in the education of the princeſs Elizabeth. Upon the acceſſion of his royal pupil, king Edward the Sixth, he received the honour of knighthood, together with a large tract of lands; and was afterwards conſtituted one of the principal ſecretaries of ſtate. About the ſame time he tranſlated the communion-book into Latin, in order to enable Peter the Martyr, who did not underſtand Engliſh, to paſs his judgment upon that performance. On the death of king Edward, his zeal for the proteſtant religion induced him to adhere to the party of the lady Jane Grey, to whom, during her ſhort reign, he acted as ſecretary. But, upon the acceſſion of queen Mary, he was ſtripped of his poſſeſſions, and obliged to take refuge in a foreign country.

He lived ſome time at Straſburg, and in 1556 propoſed going to Bruſſels in order to meet his wife, who had come ſo far in her way to him; but, before he ſet out he conſulted Aſtrology, in which he was at once very ſkilful and very credulous. He received, as he imagined, a favourable anſwer, but his art on this occaſion unhappily deceived him. He was ſeized on the road, unhorſed in an inſtant, blind-folded, bound, and thrown into a waggon, conveyed to the neareſt harbour, put on board a ſhip under hatches, and brought to the tower of London, where he was committed to cloſe cuſtody. He found in a little time, that all theſe hardſhips were impoſed on him, on account of his religion. Though firmly attached to the reformed doctrine, he was not endued with

with the ſpirit of a martyr. He renounced the proteſtant faith, embraced the Catholic, and recovered his eſtate; but repenting ſoon after of the ſtep he had taken, he was overwhelmed with ſuch a load of ſorrow and remorſe, as put a period to his life September 13, 1557, in the forty-fourth year of his age. He wrote many books, and tranſlated more.

Jeremy Taylor, biſhop of Downe and Connor, in Ireland, one of the moſt learned divines and ingenious writers of the laſt century, was born at Cambridge, and educated in the univerſity of that place. Having taken his degrees, and entered into orders, he became chaplain to archbiſhop Laud, rector of Uppingham, and chaplain in ordinary to king Charles the Firſt. During the civil war, he behaved with invincible loyalty. And after the murder of his Sovereign he retired, firſt into Wales, and then into Ireland. Upon the reſtoration of king Charles the Second, he was raiſed to the united ſees of Downe and Connor in Ireland, ſworn a privy councellor for that kingdom, had the adminiſtration of the biſhoprick of Dromore, and was elected vice-chancellor of the univerſity of Dublin. He died Auguſt 13, 1667, and was interred in the church of Dromore. His works are numerous, and greatly eſteemed, particularly his *Ductor Dubitantium.*

HORNINGSEA, near Cambridge, was early in the Saxon times noted for a monaſtery founded there, but it was never rebuilt after it was deſtroyed, together with many others, by the Danes.

BARNWELL, is a village ſomewhat more than a mile north-weſt of Cambridge, and is only remarkable for its abbey built by St. Payne or Paganus Pavarel, ſtandard bearer to Robert, duke of Normandy in the Holy war, but we have no account

account when it came to decay. The above Paganus built the abbey or monaſtery upon his having St. Giles in Cambridge given to him, as we have already noticed: he endowed it for ſix canons regular; dedicated it to St. Giles and St. Andrew, and erected near it an handſome church. As the revenues were afterwards enlarged, the number of canons was encreaſed to thirty, who had the power of chooſing their own prior with the patron's leave and approbation. It was valued at the diſſolution at 256l. 11s. 10d. per ann.

Not far from hence is a very handſome cauſeway, which runs about three miles on the road to Newmarket; it was made by Henry Hervey, doctor of laws, at a very great expence. This cauſeway was called Fleam, or Flight-bank; but of late ſeven miles Dyke, becauſe it is reckoned to be ſo far diſtant from Newmarket. It begins on the eaſt ſide of the Cam, paſſes by Fen Ditton, and ſo on between great Wilbraham and Fulborn, reaching as far as Balſham, already taken notice of.

But we muſt not leave Barnwell, without obſerving, that on the eighth of September 1727, a moſt melancholy accident happened in that village, where about an hundred and twenty perſons were burnt or ſuffocated, by a fire that broke out in a large thatched barn, where they were in the heighth of exhibiting a puppet-ſhew. It happened that the barn was ſet on fire wilfully, by a fellow who had been refuſed entrance, without paying, by the people of the ſhew, who, in revenge, ſet fire to an heap of hay and ſtraw, which ſtood cloſe to the barn. Six perſons only eſcaped with life, and amongſt the ſufferers were ſeveral young ladies of fortune, and many little boys and girls. As individuals could not be diſcovered, being reduced to one undiſtinguiſhable

guiſhable heap of mangled bones and fleſh, the bodies being half conſumed and totally disfigured, a large hole was dug in the church-yard, and all were promiſcuouſly interred together. The fate of the execrable perpetrator of this villainy we do not find recorded.

About a mile to the eaſt of Barnwell, is STURBRIDGE, a village, which as well as the former, is in the road to Newmarket, and received its name from the little brook Stour or Sture, which runs by it. In this village was an hoſpital for lepers, called St. Mary Magdalen's, leaſed by king Henry the Eighth, at the diſſolution, to the town of Cambridge. This village is rendered remarkable by having near it the greateſt fair in all his majeſty's dominions. This fair begins on the eighth of September, and is held in a corn field, about half a mile ſquare, which at that time is covered with booths, built in regular rows, in the manner of ſtreets, which are called by the name of many ſtreets in London, as Cheapſide, Cornhill, the Poultry, &c. to diſtinguiſh them from each other. Among theſe booths, are not only ſhops and warehouſes for almoſt every kind of commodity and manufacture, but taverns, eating-houſes, coffee-houſes, muſick-houſes, buildings for the exhibition of puppet-ſhows, drolls, legerdemain, monſters, and wild beaſts. There is here alſo an area of about an hundred yards ſquare, called the Duddery, where the clothiers unload, and in this place woollen goods have been ſold to the amount of an hundred thouſand pounds in a week; and the manufacturers of Norfolk, Eſſex, and Suffolk, generally lay out ſixty-thouſand pounds in wool. The ironmongers wares and upholſterers goods, amount to a prodigious ſum, and hops to ſtill more, the price of which all over the kingdom

kingdom is generally ſettled at this fair, and large commiſſions are negotiated for all parts of Great Britain. The laſt day is appropriated to the ſale of horſes, and to horſe and foot-races. The heavy goods from London are brought by ſea to Lynn in Norfolk, whence they are conveyed in barges up the Ouſe to the Cam, and ſo to the fair. The concourſe of people, whom buſineſs and amuſement concur to bring to this fair, which continues a fortnight, is ſo great, that not only Cambridge, but all the neighbouring towns and villages are full, and the very barns and ſtables are converted into drinking-rooms and lodgings for the meaner ſort of people. More than fifty hackney-coaches from London have been frequently found plying at this place, and even wherries have been brought in waggons from the Thames, to row people up and down the Cam. But notwithſtanding the concourſe of people, and the multiplicity of buſineſs, there is very ſeldom any confuſion or diſorder, by which either life or property is endangered, a court of juſtice being every day held by the magiſtrates of Cambridge, who proceed in a ſummary way, and with ſuch diligence and ſteadineſs, that the fair in many reſpects, reſembles a well ordered city. But both this and all the other fairs are much leſs reſorted to, than they were formerly.

ANGLESEA ABBEY, ſeven miles north eaſt of Cambridge, received its name from a priory of Auguſtine canons, founded, according to Speed, by Richard de Clare, though Turner affirms it was by his kinſwoman Elizabeth de Burgo, and others ſay, by king Henry the Firſt, perhaps they might all at different times be benefactors to it. It was dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin and St. Nicholas, and there were at the diſſolu-

tion

tion, eleven canons in it, the annual revenue being eſtimated at 171l. 4s. 6d.

GREAT WILBRAHAM lies about a mile and an half to the ſouthward of the ſame road to Newmarket, about eight miles from Cambridge, and ſix to the ſouth-weſt of Newmarket. It was antiently called *Wilburgham*, and was the ſeat of the barons L'Iſle de Rubeo Monte, or Rougemont, of whom John lord Liſle was one of the firſt knights of the garter. There was at this place an habitation of knights templars, which with their other eſtates came afterwards to be poſſeſſed by the knights of St. John of Jeruſalem.

SWAFFHAM BOLBEC, a village a mile out of the ſame road to the north, and about four miles ſouth-weſt by weſt of Newmarket. Had a benedictine nunnery founded before the time of king John, and dedicated to St. Mary by one of the Bolbecs. There was in it at the diſſolution, a prioreſs and eight nuns, whoſe revenue amounted to 40l. 10s. 8d. per ann.

Fifteen miles to the eaſtward of Cambridge, is NEWMARKET, which conſiſts of one long ſtreet, only the ſouth ſide of which is in this county, the other part being in Suffolk. On the Cambridge ſide is a chapel of eaſe to the neighbouring pariſh of Ditton, but the pariſh church and the market are in Suffolk. It has two charity ſchools, one for twenty boys, and the other for twenty girls; is a great thoroughfare town, neatly built, and is chiefly remarkable for the races held twice a year on the heath in its neighbourhood, called the Eaſter and October meetings, to which the principal nobility and gentry generally reſort, as well as many gamblers, pick-pockets, and others of the fraternity. The king gives two plates every year, each of 100l. pounds

pounds value, to encourage the breeding of light horſes. King Charles the Second had a palace here, where he generally reſided during the races, and in our times the company has greatly increaſed ſince the races were honoured by the frequent preſence of his late Royal Highneſs the duke of Cumberland. This town, in the reign of Edward the Third, gave name to Thomas of Newmarket, biſhop of Carliſle, who was ſo troubleſome to Henry the Fourth. Newmarket has a market on Thurſdays, and two fairs, namely, on Whit-Tueſday and October 28, for horſes and ſheep. It is fifteen miles weſt of Bury in Suffolk, and ſixty one miles north by eaſt of London. At Stetchworth, near Newmarket, there was in the year 1763 a remarkable inſtance of the wonderful increaſe of wheat. In the garden of one Mr. Fleming, a ſingle grain of wheat was ſown, or planted, in July 1762, the ſtalks produced from which, being gathered in Auguſt 1763, yielded 2733 ears, containing 92174 grains.

At BURWELL, or BURNWELL near Newmarket heath, was a caſtle in the reign of king Stephen, at the ſiege of which, Jeoffry of Mandeville, earl of Eſſex, loſt his life, being ſhot through the head with an arrow; but there are now no remains of it.

At CHIPPENHAM, a village, about four miles north of Newmarket, was a preceptory of knights hoſpitalers, ſubordinate to their great houſe in London, the manor being given them by William de Mandeville, earl of Eſſex, in 1184. It was uſed as a country-houſe for their ſick, and was valued at 33l. 6s. 8d. per annum.

KIRTLING, KIRTLIDGE, or CATLIDGE, in Cheveley hundred, about two miles to the ſouth-eaſt of Newmarket, is chiefly remarkable for having

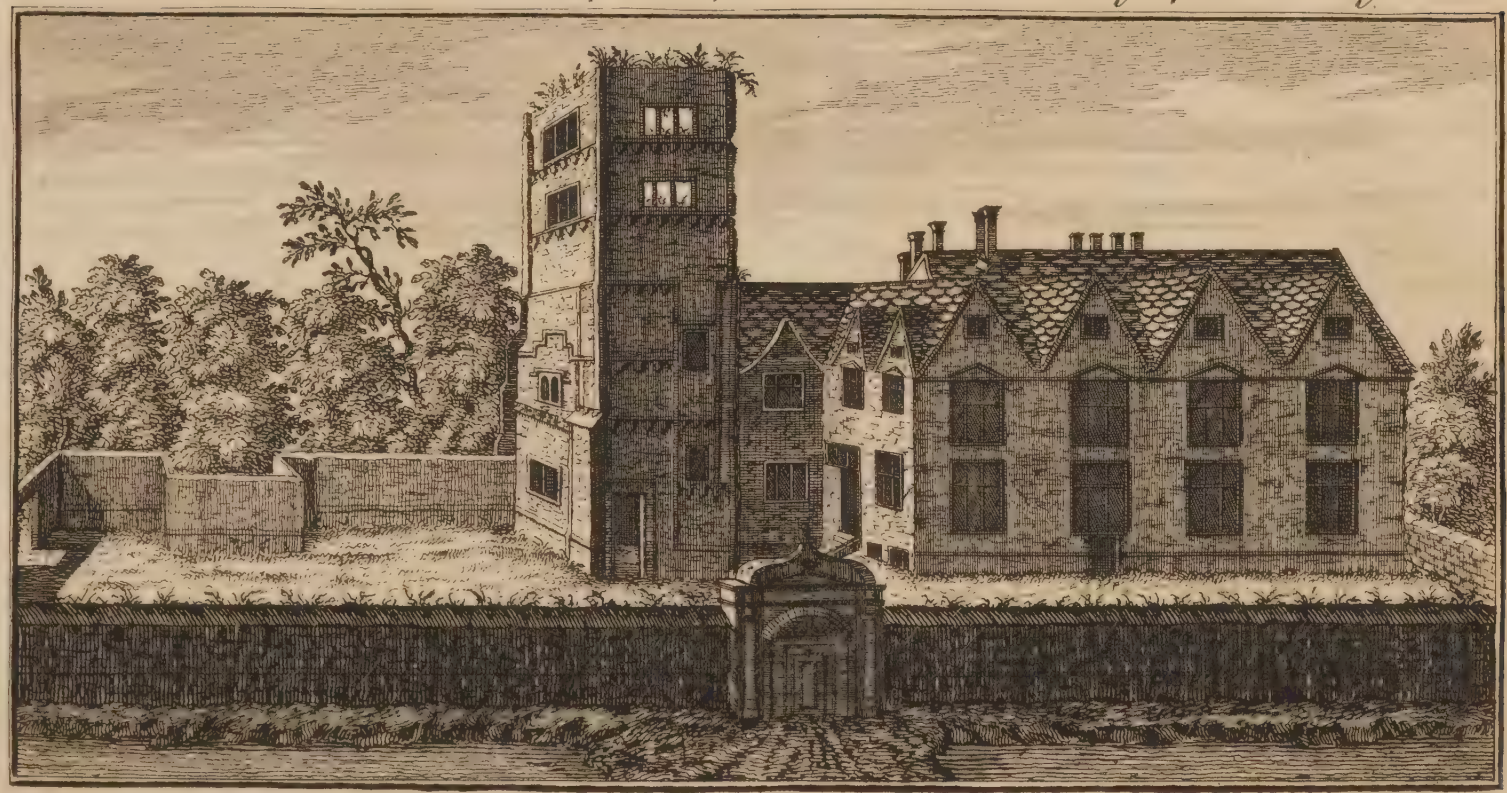
having been the ſeat of the noble family of North, anceſtors to the earls of Guilford. Camden thinks it was here the great Synod was held, Anno 977, when the clergy had that mighty conteſt about the celebration of Eaſter.

About a mile from the London road to Newmarket, and ſeven to the ſouth eaſt of Cambridge, is BALSHAM, a village remarkable for the great value of it's rectory, in the gift of the Charterhouſe, London, and near it thoſe hills begin to riſe, commonly known by the name of Gogmagog hills; hence by ſome authors they are termed the pleaſant mountains of Balſham. On the top of theſe hills are the remains of a fort, or rather a camp, which has three ramparts, and two grafts. It is very large, ſomewhat circular; and the diameter is at leaſt 246 paces. It is uncertain whether it was built by the Romans, Britons, or Danes. Near this camp runs a Roman highway, from the brow of the hill ſouthward; Horſley affirms it points towards Grantcheſter, but Dr. Gale aſſerts, it points directly to Cambridge. At this place was born Hugh of Balſham, biſhop of Ely, in the reign of Edward I. who was a great benefactor to the church of Ely, and founder of Peterhouſe college, Cambridge.

LINTON, is a ſmall town on the confines of Eſſex, in the road from Cambridge to Bury, in Suffolk; a Roman way falls here into the Icening ſtreet. It has a market on Thurſdays, and two fairs, namely, on Holy Thurſday, and Auguſt 30, chiefly for horſes. There was at this place an Alien priory, ſubordinate to the abbey of St. Jacutus de Inſula, in Brittany, before the time of Henry III. It was ſeized by the crown, during the French wars, and was valued, at the ſuppreſſion, at 23l. 8s. 10d. per ann.

There

The North East View of Camps Castle in the County of Cambridge.



Vol. I Page. 261.

There was alſo at Bereham in this pariſh, a priory of crouched or croſſed Friars, in the time of Edward I. which was a cell to Welnetham in Suffolk, and Welnetham was ſubordinate to the great houſe of the order in London.

CASTLE CAMPS is a ſmall village, ſituated at the ſouth eaſtern extremity of the county, about four miles nearly eaſt from Linton. The caſtle here, of the remains of which an engraved view is given with this work, was the ſeat of Vere earl of Oxford; to whom it was given by king Henry I. together with the place of great chamberlain of England, to deſcend in the family. The tower and outward hall, built with bricks, are all that remain of the ancient caſtle. It is now, together with the advowſon of the rectory, in the poſſeſſion of the Charterhouſe, London.

At HINKSTONE, eight miles ſouth eaſt of Cambridge, is one of thoſe long and large ditches commonly called Flems-dyke, thought to have been caſt up by the Eaſt Angles, with vaſt labour and expence, to defend themſelves againſt the incurſions of the Mercians, who had often invaded their country, and ravaged all before them. This dyke runs north eaſt by Hilderſham, and Horſe-heath, being in length, about five miles; and another called Brent ditch, runs from Milbern to Fulmore, or Foulmere. This laſt is in the road from London to Cambridge, from which it lies nine miles ſouth. In the ſtone quarries about it, are found large quantities of the ſtone called Pyrites, ſuch as they make copperas with at Deptford. Dr. Stukely informs us, that this great ditch runs from Royſton to Balſham.

GAMLINGAY, on the borders of Huntingdonſhire, and in the road from Bedford to Cambridge,

is

is remarkable for being the birth place of William Purchaſe, lord mayor of London, in 1497, who converted Moorfields into pleaſant walks, which were before almoſt impaſſable. It is 30 miles eaſt of Bedford, and 15 weſt of Cambridge. The rectory is a fine cure, in the gift of Merton college, Oxford, but the patronage of the vicarage is in the biſhop of Ely.

LONG STOW, is on the borders of Huntingdonſhire, almoſt four miles ſouth of Caxton, and is ſeated about two miles to the weſt of the road from Royſton to Caxton. About the time of Henry III. an hoſpital for poor ſiſters was founded here by the vicar of the pariſh (though it is now a rectory) for poor ſiſters, and dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin.

CAXTON is a ſmall town on the road from Royſton to Huntingdon, ſeven miles to the north eaſt of Huntingdon, twelve ſouth of Royſton, and ten weſt of Cambridge. The Hermen ſtreet, a Roman road from Arington and Holm, goes through this place to Papworth. It is a poſt town, ſeated on a clayey ſoil, and well furniſhed with Inns. It has a market on Tueſdays, and two fairs, namely, on May 5, and October 12, both for pedlars ware. Matthew Paris, the hiſtorian, was born here, as was alſo William Caxton, the firſt who practiſed the noble art of printing in this kingdom, and who had his ſirname from this place; he died in the year 1486.

SWAVESEY, on the borders of Huntingdonſhire, about four miles S. E. of St. Ives, had, about the time of the conqueſt, a cell of Benedictines belonging to the abbey of St. Sergius and Briocus, at Angiers, which was ſold to the priory of St. Anne, near Coventry, by the French abbot,

abbot, by licence from Richard II. during the French wars.

At ELTESLEY, ſometimes called ELLESLEY and ELSLEY, lying on the borders of the county, about 12 miles weſt of Cambridge, in the road to St. Neots, there was an old nunnery which was deſtroyed at the conqueſt and never rebuilt.

Having given a view of the principal places, on, or near the roads, on the ſouth eaſt and weſt ſides of Cambridge, we ſhall now proceed to the north.

ARBURY, or ARBOROUGH is a mile north of Cambridge; there are here the remains of a Roman camp, of very conſiderable extent, and of a figure inclining to a ſquare. It is oppoſite to the camp already mentioned to be ſituated on Gogmagog hills, which ſome think was a Britiſh camp, intended as a check to that of the Romans at Arborough. At this laſt place, many Roman coins have been, from time to time, found; and among the reſt, one having the head of Rome on one ſide, and Caſtor and Pollux on the reverſe, on horſeback.

Near this place is CHESTERTON, which gives name to the hundred, and probably, derives it's own name from the camp at Arborough.

DENNY, a village about eight miles north of Cambridge, and a mile to the weſt of the road from Cambridge to Ely, is chiefly remarkable for a religious houſe, which long flouriſhed here. It was at firſt founded in the year 1160, for Benedictine monks, (ſubordinate to the abbey of Ely) by Robert, Chamberlain to Conan duke of Britain and Richmond, who afterwards became a a monk himſelf, and Aubrey Picot. Theſe monks were ſucceeded in the next century by Templars, and in the year 1341, Maria de Sancto Paulo, converted this houſe into a nunnery of the order of

of St. Clare, and dedicated it to St. James and St. Leonard, though ſome ſay, it was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Clare. She alſo annexed the advowſon of the abbey of Minoreſſes at Water Beech in this neighbourhood, founded by the lady Dionyſia de Monte Caneſio, in the year 1293, and by licence from king Edward III. tranſlated the nuns to this houſe. It's annual value at the diſſolution was 172l. 8s. 3d. ½. at which time there were in it 25 nuns. This Mary de Sancto Paulo of whom we have already made mention, in our account of Pembroke college, in Cambridge, is ſaid to have lived 60 years after the fatal accident of her huſband being killed on his wedding day, in a tournament, ſtill preſerving the memory of her lord, and devoting her whole life to acts of piety and munificence. She at length died in a good old age, being buried in the above-mentioned abbey of Denny, between the choir of the ſeculars and nuns, and a marble tomb was erected over her grave.

On leaving the road from Cambridge to Ely, and turning between two and three miles to the eaſt, you come to the village of ROACH, or ROCHE, which lies ten miles north eaſt of Cambridge, and twelve ſouth eaſt of Ely. It had a market which is now diſcontinued, but it has ſtill a fair on Rogation Monday for horſes. Near this place begins another fortification or ditch with a rampart, which is called the Devils Dyke, becauſe the common people would have it be a work of the devil, others call it Roach Dyke becauſe it begins near this town, and runs ſeveral miles over Newmarket heath, ending near Lowlidge in Suffolk. It is uncertain who was the contriver of this mighty work; for ſome attribute it to Canute, and others to St. Edmund; becauſe William of Malmſbury calls it St. Edmund's Dyke.

Dyke. It was certainly the boundary of the kingdom of the Eaſt Angles, and made to prevent the incurſions on that ſide.

Three miles and a half farther to the north, and three miles from the road to Ely, lies WICKEN, where was an houſe which lady Mary Baſſingburn, gave with ſeveral parcels of land, to Spinney-abbey, mentioned in the next article, upon condition that ſeven poor old men ſhould be maintained in it, with the allowance to each of one farthing loaf, one herring, and one pennyworth of ale every day; and three ells of linning, one woollen garment, one pair of ſhoes, and two hundred dry turf every year. In the church belonging to this pariſh, was interred the body of Oliver Cromwell's ſecond ſon, commonly called Henry lord Cromwell.

SPINNEY ABBEY, lies nearly weſt of Wicken, about a mile and an half diſtant, near a mile to the eaſt of the road to Ely, and ſomewhat more than two miles ſouth-weſt of Soham. There was here a priory for three canons regular, of the order of St. Auguſtine. Sir Hugh de Malabiſe, who married the lady of the manor, built and endowed it in the reign of Henry III. It was dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin and the holy Croſs, and in 1449 was united to the cathedral monaſtery of Ely.

SUTTON is a village ſix miles ſouth-weſt of Ely, and five miles weſt of the road leading to that city. In the year 1694, ſeveral pieces of antiquity were found here by ſome huſbandmen, as they were plowing. The plow-ſhare brought up ſeveral ſmall ancient coins, together with a thin plate of lead; upon which, one of the labourers thruſting his hand into the earth, which was of a light nature, found three thin plates of ſilver, of a circular ſhape, about ſix inches in diameter, two of

them were locked together by a ſmall rivet paſſing through their centers. We have here under given the repreſentation of one of theſe plates, which has a Dano-Saxon inſcription round it, very ſlightly engraved:

This inſcription, the firſt three words excepted, which are not underſtood, is in Engliſh to this effect.

O Lord, Lord, him always defend, who carryeth me about with him: grant him whatever he deſires.

This inſcription ſhews it to have been a charm, and the knots and figures on the reverſe are alſo ſuppoſed to be magical. There were alſo found with theſe plates, ſome large rings of gold, ſuppoſed to be the treaſure of ſome noble perſon, who

who had retired in time of war for safety, into this fenny country.

WICHFORD, lies between Sutton and Ely, about two miles south-west of the latter; it is only remarkable for giving name to the hundred in which it stands.

The city of ELY is situated seventeen miles north of Cambridge, ninety six north by east of London, twenty three north-east of Huntingdon, and the same distance north-west of St. Edmund's-Bury It is supposed to derive its name either from the great number of *Eels*, with which the country abounds, or from *Helys*, a Saxon word, signifying willows. The circumjacent country takes the name of the isle of Ely, from this city. Though it stands on a rising ground it is not well inhabited, on account of the moist and unhealthy air from the fens. The chief street is the only one that is paved, the rest being very dirty; yet it is full of springs, and though the wells which are frequent, are bricked up about two feet in height, yet they generally overflow, forming a little stream, which runs down the hill. This city is antient, but neither beautiful nor populous; the principal buildings in it, are the cathedral, and the bishop's palace. The church is four hundred feet long, and has a tower at the west end about two hundred feet high; it has also a lofty cupola, which has a fine effect, and is seen at a great distance. When this cupula had not been built above one hundred years it fell down, but it was soon rebuilt as it now stands, by bishop Hotham. The western part of the church and the steeple, as high as the battlements, were built by Jeffery Ridal, the third bishop; the choir and the cupula, which fell as abovementioned, were built by Hugh Norwold the eighth bishop. St. Mary's

chapel, under the northern part of the church, was erected by Simon Montacute, ſucceſſor to biſhop Hotham; and biſhop Norwood built the palace, and covered it with lead, but the form of it, owing to frequent reparations and alterations, is now greatly different from what it then was. On the ſouth ſide of the church is an high round mount, now the ſite of a windmill, but for what purpoſe it was firſt raiſed is uncertain.

It is ſuppoſed that a religious ſociety was originally founded here by Ethelreda, one of the daughters of king Ina, who was firſt married to Tombert, prince of this country, and after his death, to Egfrid king of Northumberland, about the year 673. The royal foundreſs became the firſt abbeſs, the church was dedicated to the Bleſſed Virgin, and monks and nuns lived together as was the cuſtom in thoſe early times. This ſociety became famous, and continued till the country was ravaged, and all the religious houſes deſtroyed by Hubba in 870. The church and buildings were, however, ſoon repaired by a few monks who eſcaped the ſlaughter, and lived under the government of provoſts or archprieſts, as ſeculars, till the year 970, when the whole monaſtery was rebuilt with great magnificence by Ethelwold, biſhop of Wincheſter, who jointly, with king Edgar, endowed it, and once more introduced an abbot and regular clergy, and dedicated it to St. Peter and St. Ethelreda or Audrey. In the year 1108 the ſee of a new biſhoprick, taken out of that of Lincoln, was eſtabliſhed here; the manor of Spaldwic, being given by king Henry I. to the biſhops of Lincoln, to make them in ſome ſort amends for the loſs of Cambridgeſhire and this iſle. The biſhop governed the monaſtery, and the revenue was divided between him and the prior and monks. At the diſ-

ſolution

ſolution the ſhare of the biſhop was valued at 2134l. 18s. 6d. and the convent's ſhare at 1084l. 6s. 9d. A prior, and more than thirty monks of the Benedictine order, then ſurrendered it, and king Henry the Eighth placed here a dean and eight ſecular canons or prebends, with vicars, lay-clerks, choriſters, a ſchoolmaſter, uſher, and twenty eight king's ſcholars, to whom he granted the ſite of the monaſtery, and great part of the lands. The firſt biſhop of Ely was Hervy, who had been before ejected by the Welch from the ſee of Bangor, he purchaſed many fair and valuable eſtates for the uſe of the church, made the way from Exning to Ely, about ſix miles through the Fens, and obtained for himſelf and his ſucceſſors, many privileges and immunities of the king, inſomuch that the biſhops from the time of Henry the Firſt, to Henry the Eighth, had all the rights of counts palatine, having power to appoint a judge to hear and determine all cauſes within the iſle, to hold aſſizes, goal delivery, and quarter ſeſſions of the peace for the liberty, and had a bailiff and under bailiff for the execution of all proceſſes iſſued from their courts. But moſt of theſe rights are now taken away, though the biſhop is ſtill chief magiſtrate of the city, which ſends no members to parliament, and in that particular, differs from every other city in the kingdom.

There were formerly in Ely two hoſpitals, probably maintained out of the epiſcopal revenue, one of which was dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, and the other to St. Mary Magdalen, but about the year 1240, they were united by biſhop Norwold, and managed by ſome of the monks for the ſpace of two hundred and eighteen years, after which, biſhop Gray made one of his ſecular chaplains maſter or warden. It was

at

at the ſurrender valued 25l. 5s. 3d. per annum, and was by queen Elizabeth granted to Clare-hall in Cambridge. It has at preſent a free ſchool, and two charity ſchools. A market is held here weekly on Saturdays, and there are two fairs annually, namely, on Holy Thurſday, for horſes, and on the Thurſday in the week that St. Luke's day falls in, which is on October 18, for horſes, cheeſe, and hops.

DOWDHAM, is a village two miles north-weſt of Ely, but is only remarkable for the ſeat of the biſhop, and a park adjoining thereto.

In the road from Ely to St. Edmund's-Bury, is SOHAM, a ſmall town, five miles from Ely, on the borders of Suffolk, on the eaſt ſide of the river Cam, and near a large fen, which was formerly dangerous for paſſengers, but there is now a cauſeway made over it. This place is ſaid to have been a biſhop's ſee, under the Eaſt Angles, and there are ſtill to be ſeen the ruins of a large church, which was demoliſhed by the Danes, who burnt it, together with a conſiderable number of the inhabitants, which they had driven into it. The free ſchool is converted into a charity ſchool for upwards of one hundred boys. This town has a ſmall market on Saturdays, and one fair on April 28, for cows and horſes. It is twenty three miles weſt by north of Bury; twenty three eaſt of Huntingdon, forty three weſt of Ipſwich, and ſixty eight north by eaſt of London.

At FORDHAM, about four miles to the ſouth-eaſt of Soham, and in the road to Bury, was a ſmall convent of Gilbertine canons, founded by Robert de Fordham, and dedicated to St. Peter and St. Mary Magdalen. King Henry the Third gave them the church, and the above-mentioned Sir Hugh Malabiſe, was a conſiderable bene-

factor.

factor. Its revenue at the ſuppreſſion amounted to 40l. 13s. 4d. per annum.

ISELHAM, between three and four miles to the north-eaſt of Soham, had a priory, which like that at Linton already mentioned, was a cell to the abbey of St. Jacutus in Brittany, and was valued at the diſſolution at 10l. 13s. 4d. per ann.

Fifteen miles north weſt of Ely, and eighteen north of Huntingdon, ſtands MERSH or MARSH, which is an inconſiderable town, with a ſmall market on Fridays, and two fairs annually, namely, on Whit-Monday for houſhold goods, and October 27 for cheeſe. A road extends from hence thro' the fens to Cambridge. The church is only a chapel of eaſe to Doddington. When a road was making from this place to Wiſbich, two urns were found by the workmen, in one of which were bones and aſhes, in the other were about three hundred pieces of ſilver coin, no two of which were perfectly alike, yet all by their date appeared to be above two thouſand years old.

WISBICH, the moſt conſiderable town in the iſle of Ely, is eighteen miles north weſt by north of the city of Ely, and eighty-eight north by eaſt of London. It is well built and populous, has a good public hall, and an epiſcopal palace belonging to the biſhop of Ely. The convenience of water carriage procures it a great intercourſe of trade with London, to which in the beginning of the reign of George the Firſt, it ſent annually upon an average 52,500 quarters of oats, 1000 tons of oils, and about 8000 firkins of butter. William the Conqueror built a caſtle here to defend the country from the Ely out-laws, but in the year 1236, all the land, and the people about this town were drowned, by a tempeſtuous inundation from the ſea. Cardinal Moreton, biſhop of Ely, rebuilt the caſtle with bricks, and

in the time of queen Elizabeth, it was made uſe of as a priſon for the confinement of ſuch Popiſh prieſts as conſpired againſt the government. For the increaſe of trade, the ſame biſhop drew a ſtrait ditch or drain through the fenny country, called the New Leam. This town has a large market on Saturdays, and ſix fairs, namely, on Saturday and Monday before Palm Sunday for hemp and flax, on Monday before Whitſunday for horſes, on Saturday before the ſame, for hemp and flax; on July 25 for horſes, and on Auguſt 1, and 28, for hemp and flax.

There was, before the year 1343, at Wiſbich, an hoſpital dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, and at *Newton* in the neighbourhood, in the chapel of St. Mary Super Coſteram Maris there was a large chantry, founded in the reign of Henry the Fourth, by Sir John Colville, conſiſting of a warden and ſeveral chaplains, which was particularly excepted in the act of diſſolution, the lands being annexed to the rectory of Newton. At Leverington, not far from Newton, was alſo an old hoſpital, long ſince decayed, and the revenue ſwallowed up.

At ELM, near Wiſbich, an urn full of braſs money was dug up, about the year 1713, not far from a tumulus, of which the common people have ſtrange notions, affirming they frequently ſee a light upon it in dark winter nights: the coins were of the later emperors; and there is, ſays Dr. Stukeley, a piece of high ground near the ſame place, where buildings have been erected.

At UPWELL, formerly called Mirmaud, about ſix miles ſouth-eaſt of Wiſbich, and in its hundred (though in the dioceſe of Norwich) there was a ſmall cell of Gilbertines, given by Richard de Hauville, in the time of Richard the Firſt, or John, as a cell to Sempringham. It was valued

lued at 10l. 7s. 7d. per annum. There is held at this place one annual fair, on Auguſt the ſecond, for horſes.

At PURLING, not far from Upwell, there was a ſmall priory, but by whom founded, or at what period, is not certainly known.

CHATTERIS is a village near Gaiter's bridge, ten miles weſt of Ely, in the fens. There was at this place a Benedictine nunnery, founded to the honour of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary, by Alfwen wife of Ethelſtan earl of the Eaſt Angles, and nurſe to king Edgar about the year 980. It was a few years afterwards farther endowed by Ednothus, abbot of Ramſay, who was made biſhop of Dorcheſter, but was murdered by the Danes in 1016. Henry the Firſt annexed this abbey to the church of Ely, and it was valued at the diſſolution at 97l. 3s. 4d. per annum.

THORNEY, is a ſmall town ſeated in the north weſt part of the county, fourteen miles to the ſouth weſt of Wiſbich, and twenty north weſt of Ely, in the fens, near Catwater river. Its principal glory was its magnificent abbey, the church of which is now made parochial. This abbey was founded originally by Saxulp the firſt abbot of Peterborough, but in the year 870 the houſe was deſtroyed by the Danes, and the prior and ſeveral Anchorites were then murdered; it was, however, refounded in a more noble manner in the year 972, by St. Ethelwold, biſhop of Wincheſter for Benedictine monks, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Botolph. King Edgar, in 973, granted to it ſeveral lands and privileges. The abbot of this houſe was mitred, and of courſe ſat in the houſe of lords. Its principal benefactors, were Nigellus, biſhop of Ely, William Peveril, ſeveral of the Beauchamps, Henry de Merch, William de Albenes, Brito,

Truſtron de Montfort, John de Shetavill, &c. whoſe benefactions were confirmed by the bull of Pope Alexander, dated 1162. This is the place which William of Malmſbury, ſo early as the days of St. Etheldreda, deſcribed as a terreſtrial paradiſe. The revenues of this abbey, were, at the diſſolution, valued at 411l. 12s 11d. per ann. The church, which is ſtill remaining, and of which an engraved view is given with this work, is a very handſome ſtructure. A ſmall market is held at Thorney, on Tueſday, and there are two fairs annually, namely, on July 1, and September 21, for horſes. There was alſo formerly, at this place, an hoſpital for poor perſons, under the government of the abbey.

WHITTLESEA is a village ſituated near the weſtern extremity of the county, about four miles eaſt of Peterborough. It is chiefly noted for it's great horſe fair, held annually on January 25, unleſs it falls on a Sunday, when the fair is held on the Monday; it has beſides, two other fairs, namely, on June 13, and October 25, for horſes and cattle.

ERITH is a large village, on the borders of Huntingdonſhire, in which county ſome place it, and it certainly ſtands at the very edge of Cambridgeſhire, about twelve miles ſouth-weſt of Ely. Near this place is a rampire, very large, but not high, called Belſar's hill, from ſome unknown perſon, whoſe name was undoubtedly, either Beliſar, or Beliſarius. It has been by ſome, thought a retreat for the rebels, in the time of William the Norman, for they imagined themſelves ſafe on account of it's being ſurrounded with bogs. In the baron's wars alſo, ſuch as were outlawed retired to this place, and greatly annoyed the adjacent country.

Cam-

Vol. I. Page 274.

The South West View of Thorney Abbey in the County of Cambridge.

Cambridgeſhire is one of the counties which was inhabited by the Iceni, but under what diviſion this and the other counties inhabitted by the ſame people ſell, when Britain became a Roman province, is not certainly known, it is however generally believed to have been Flavia Cæſarienſis, though the Notitia of the weſtern empire places the Tribantes and Simeni or Iceni in the Britannia Secunda.

We are acquainted by Tacitus, that the Iceni were a courageous warlike people, and that when they ſubmitted to the Romans, they received little damage from them till they were diſarmed by Oſtorius, in the reign of Claudius; this provoked them to rebel, and then the Romans, breaking through their fortifications, killed great numbers of them, and compelled them to ſubjection. However, in thirty years time they threw off the yoke, Praſutagus king of the Iceni, being willing his family ſhould live in peace after his death, bequeathed his kingdom to the emperor Nero; the Centurions paying no regard to his will, ravaged the country, plundered his houſe, whipped his wife Boadicea, raviſhed his daughters, diſinheritted the principal men, and treated the royal family as ſlaves. This uſage cauſed the Iceni to take up arms again, and they invited the Trinobantes, and others, to their aſſiſtance, who were weary of the Roman yoke. Boadicea placed herſelf at the head of the Britiſh army, and fell upon the Romans with irriſiſtable fury, ſhe ſlew 80000 of them, ravaged their colony at Camalodunum, now Malden, in Eſſex, as alſo at Verulam, near St. Alban's in Hertfordſhire; ſhe alſo routed the ninth legion, and put the procurator Catus Decianus to flight. Paulinus Suetonius, the Roman lieutenant, was abſent at that time; but after his return he got together an army, and marched againſt

againſt Boadicea, who was at the head of 230000 Britons. He came off conqueror, upon which ſome ſay, the queen died of grief, but Tacitus affirms it was by poiſon. After this they remained quiet, under the government of the Romans, till the Saxons infeſted the ſea coaſts.

Theſe people at firſt acted as pirates, and gave great proof of their courage; but when the Britons were plundered by the Picts and Scots, they ſought for the aſſiſtance of the Saxons, who ſoon vanquiſhed their enemies; but after this, ſettled themſelves firſt in one part of this iſland, and then in another, till at length they got poſſeſſion of the ſouth part, now called England, and divided it into ſeven kingdoms. Cambridgeſhire became part of the kingdom of the Eaſt Angles, and Uffa, a great Saxon commander, was the firſt king. Beſides this county, it alſo included Huntingdon, Norfolk, and Suffolk. This iſland was next invaded by the Danes, who conquered and kept poſſeſſion of it fifty years, till Edward the Elder regained it from them by force, and added this county to his own kingdom of the Weſt Saxons. He and his ſucceſſors put it in the hands of deputies; and one of theſe was Ralph, a Briton, who was poſſeſſed of it when William the Conqueror invaded this iſland. He was one of thoſe who conſpired againſt the Conqueror; but his deſign being diſcovered, William ſeized on ſeveral of his confederates, many of whom he beheaded; but Ralph himſelf fled; however he was deprived of his honour, and afterwards attainted.

The fenny country was in the time of the Saxons, inhabited by a people diſtinguiſhed by the name of Girvii or Fenmen, and the country in general, was then in ſuch a condition, that they uſed to walk about their buſineſs aloft, on a kind of ſtilts. Camden ſays, they were a rugged uncivilized

civilized race, full of envy for the more advantageous ſituation of their neighbours, whom, for diſtinction ſake, they called Upland men.

We ſhall add to our account of this county, memoirs of a few perſons, who by birth or reſidence, were allied thereto.

Thomas Tenniſon, archbiſhop of Canterbury, in the end of the ſeventeenth, and beginning of the eighteenth centuries, was the ſon of the reverend Mr. John Tenniſon, and born at Cottenham in this county, on the 29th of September, 1630. He received his education in the free-ſchool of Norwich, and in Bennet College, Cambridge. After paſſing through ſome inferior church preferments, he was, in 1680, preſented, by king Charles the Second, to the vicarage of St. Martin's in the Fields, London. Here he diſcharged his duty with great diligence and ſucceſs, and left behind him, on his quitting that cure, ſeveral monuments of his charity; for, beſides a number of other benefactions, he founded the ſchool, which ſtill ſubſiſts, in the neighbourhood of the Mews, for the education of poor children. In 1685, he attended the duke of Monmouth, at the time of his execution; and during the ſtruggle between the proteſtant and catholic faith, he approved himſelf in writing as well as converſation, a ſteady friend to the former. His merit was by this time, become ſo conſpicuous, that he was promoted, firſt to the archdeaconry of London, then to the ſee of Lincoln, and laſt of all, in 1694, to the archbiſhopric of Canterbury. In conſequence of his ſtation, he had the honour of crowning her majeſty, queen Anne; but, as he was a man of moderate principles, he poſſeſſed little or no intereſt during the reign of that princeſs. He was complimented, however, with the firſt place in the liſt of commiſſioners, for concluding

cluding the union between England and Scotland; upon the acceſſion of king George the Firſt, whom he likewiſe crowned, he recovered all his former influence; but this he did not live long to enjoy; for he died on December 14, 1715, in the ſeventy-ninth year of his age. Beſides the donations already mentioned, he founded a charity ſchool at Lambeth, and another at Croyden, and left by his will, a great number of legacies. He was the author of ſeveral works, partly practical, and partly controverſial, and all of the theological kind; which, though neither remarkable for elegance of ſtyle, or force of expreſſion, are yet ſufficiently ſenſible to ſhew the abſurdity of that ſevere ſarcaſm, which was thrown out againſt him, and which is commonly fathered upon the celebrated Dean Swift, namely, *that he was hot and heavy, like a Taylor's Gooſe.*

Iſaac Barrow, an eminent mathematician and divine, of the ſeventeenth century, was deſcended from an ancient family in Suffolk, and born in London, in October, 1630. While at the Charterhouſe ſchool, he ſeemed fonder of fighting than of ſtudy, ſo that his father having little hopes of his becoming a ſcholar, often wiſhed, that if it pleaſed God to take any of his children away, it might be his ſon Iſaac. But his progreſs both at Felſted ſchool in Eſſex, and at Cambridge, to which he was afterwards removed, ſoon gave his father hopes of his growing abilities. In 1648, he was choſen fellow of Trinity college, in Cambridge, and after his election, not finding the times favourable to eccleſiaſtical preferment, he turned his thoughts to the profeſſion of phyſic, and for ſome years bent his ſtudies that way, but ſoon after he applied himſelf to geometry and other more abſtruſe parts of learning. To forward himſelf in theſe kinds of knowledge, he left Eng-

land,

land, and travelling to Paris, he there found his father, to whom he gave a ſeaſonable ſupply, and alſo ſent to his college a poem, giving an account of his journey thither, and alſo ſome curious and political obſervations in a letter, written in latin. In the progreſs of his travels from Leghorn to Smyrna, the ſhip in which he went, being in danger from an Algerine pirate, he ſtood to the gun appointed him with great courage, and the ſhip making a ſtout defence, the pirate ſheered off. At Smyrna, he met with a moſt kind reception from Mr. Bretton, the Engliſh conſul, upon whoſe death he afterwards wrote a latin elegy. When he had travelled in Turkey about a year, he returned from thence to Venice; and from thence came home, in 1659, through Germany and Holland, and ſoon after took holy orders. In 1660, he was choſen greek profeſſor at Cambridge, and ſometime after geometry profeſſor at Greſham college, and afterwards fellow of the Royal Society, in the firſt choice made by the council after their charter. In 1669, he reſigned the mathematical chair, in Cambridge, to which he had been ſome time before elected, to his friend Mr. Iſaac Newton, being determined wholly to give up the ſtudy of mathematics for that of divinity. Upon quitting his profeſſorſhip, he continued ſimply a fellow of Trinity college, till his uncle gave him a ſmall fine cure in Wales, and the biſhop of Saliſbury made him a prebend in his church. In the year 1670, he was created doctor of divinity, by mandate, and upon the promotion of Dr. Pearſon, maſter of Trinity college, to the ſee of Cheſter, he was appointed to ſucceed him by the king's patent, bearing date the 13th of February, 1672. When the king advanced him to this dignity, he was pleaſed to ſay "he had given it to the beſt ſcholar in England." The Doctor being then

his

his majeſty's chaplain, he uſed often to converſe with him, and in his humorous way, to call him an unfair preacher, becauſe he exhauſted every ſubject, and left no room for others to come after him. In 1675, he was choſen vice chancellor of the univerſity, and died of a fever, on the 4th of May, 1677. He has a monument erected to his memory in Weſtminſter abbey, where he was interred.

Jeremy Collier, an eminent Engliſh divine and eſſayiſt of the ſeventeenth century, was born at Stow Qui, in this county, on September 23, 1650. He was firſt educated under his father, who was maſter of the free ſchool at Ipſwich, and afterwards admitted a poor ſcholar of Caius college, in 1669. Having gone through the uſual courſe of a learned education, he went into orders, and for ſome time officiated at the counteſs dowager of Dorſet's, in Kent, from whence he was removed to a ſmall rectory at Ampton, near St. Edmund's-bury, in Suffolk. Having held this benefice for ſix years, he reſigned it, and came to London, and was ſome time after made lecturer of Gray's Inn; but the revolution ſoon after ſucceeding, upon refuſing to take the uſual oaths, he was diſmiſſed from this employment. From this time he became one of the moſt eminent writers among the nonjuring party, and maintained the declining cauſe with a vigour and ſpirit that was almoſt irreſiſtible. He at length however, became obnoxious to the men in power, who only waited for an occaſion to ſeize him. That occaſion at laſt offered, for the government having intelligence, that he, with one Mr. Newton, another nonjuring clergyman, were gone down to Romney marſh with a view of ſending to, or receiving intelligence from the other ſide of the water, meſſengers were

were ſent down to apprehend them. They were upon this, committed to the Gatehouſe, tho' ſoon after admitted to bail and releaſed; but Mr. Collier making a ſcruple of remaining upon bail, as he conceived that that preſuppoſed an acknowledgment of the juriſdiction of the court, he ſurrendered himſelf again to the diſcharge of his bail, but at the interceſſion of friends was again diſcharged. In the year 1696, we find Mr. Collier acting a very extraordinary part in regard to Sir John Friend, and Sir William Perkins, who were convicted of being in the aſſaſſination plot; for Mr. Collier and two other clergymen of his own turn of thinking, abſolved theſe unfortunate men, at the place of execution, which ſo much incenſed the biſhops, that they teſtified by a public declaration their abhorrence of this ſcandalous, irregular, and ſchiſmatical proceeding. The delinquents were alſo proſecuted in the ſecular courts, as enemies to the government, in conſequence of which, Mr. Cook, and Mr. Snatt, were committed to Newgate, but afterwards releaſed without being brought to a trial; but Mr. Collier, having ſtill his old ſcruple about putting in bail, and abſconding, he was outlawed, and ſo continued till the time of his death. During this period of calamity he publiſhed his Moral Eſſays, in three volumes, which are ſtill admired; he publiſhed alſo his Short View of the Immorality of the Stage, and laſhed the wits of that age, with the fineſt and the ſevereſt ridicule. In the year 1713, Mr. Collier, as is confidently reported, was conſecrated a biſhop by Dr. George Hicks, who himſelf had been conſecrated by ſome of thoſe biſhops who had been deprived. As he grew in years his health became impaired by frequent attacks of the ſtone, of which he died, on April 26, 1726, and in the 76th year of his age.

CAR-

CARDIGANSHIRE.

CARDIGANSHIRE, a county of South-Wales, takes its name from its principal town *Cardigan*. It is called by the Welch *Sir Abber Teivy*, and lies along the Iriſh ſea which bounds it on the weſt, as Radnorſhire, Brecknockſhire, and part of Montgomeryſhire do on the eaſt; by Merionethſhire, part of Montgomeryſhire, and Cardigan bay on the north, and Caermarthenſhire and part of Pembrokeſhire on the ſouth. Its greateſt length from north-eaſt to ſouth-weſt is rather more than forty miles; it is twenty miles in breadth from ſouth-eaſt to north-weſt, and is near one hundred in circumference.

The air and ſoil of this county vary in different parts; in the ſouth and weſt quarters of Cardiganſhire, which are more level than Wales is in general, the air is mild and temperate, and the ſoil fruitful; but the north and eaſt being a continued ridge of mountains, are bleak and barren when compared with the reſt; yet even in the worſt parts of the ſhire, there is paſture in plenty for breeding large quantities of ſheep and black cattle, of which there are ſuch numbers that this country is called the nurſery of cattle for all England ſouth of Trent. Coals and other fuel are ſcarce; but in the north parts of the county, particularly about Aberiſtwith, ſeveral rich lead mines were diſcovered in the lat-

ter

ter end of the laſt century, ſome of which yield ſilver, and the ore often appears above ground. Indeed ſome of the ore has been ſo rich in ſilver as to produce ſeventy or eighty ounces in a ton of metal. A company of Germans, in queen Elizabeth's time, worked in theſe mines to their great advantage; Sir Hugh Middleton alſo in the reign of James the Firſt, made a vaſt fortune here, which he afterwards ſpent in bringing the New River water to London. He cleared two thouſand pounds a month for ſome years, out of one ſilver mine; and after him Mr. Buſhel gained an immenſe ſum out of this and other mines in this county. For this reaſon, Charles the Firſt allowed him to ſet up a mint in the caſtle of Aberyſtwith for the convenience of paying his workmen; he alſo made him governor of the iſle of Lundy, to ſecure his ſhipping. Mr. Buſhel, out of the profit of theſe mines, according to Mr. Morris, made the ſame king a preſent of a regiment of horſe in the civil wars, cloathed the king's whole army, and lent him 40,000 pounds. Some time after this, the company of mine adventurers, laid out conſiderable ſums of money in working theſe mines; and ſucceeded very well, till they fell out among themſelves, which has not only been an hindrance to the works in this county, but to mining in general.

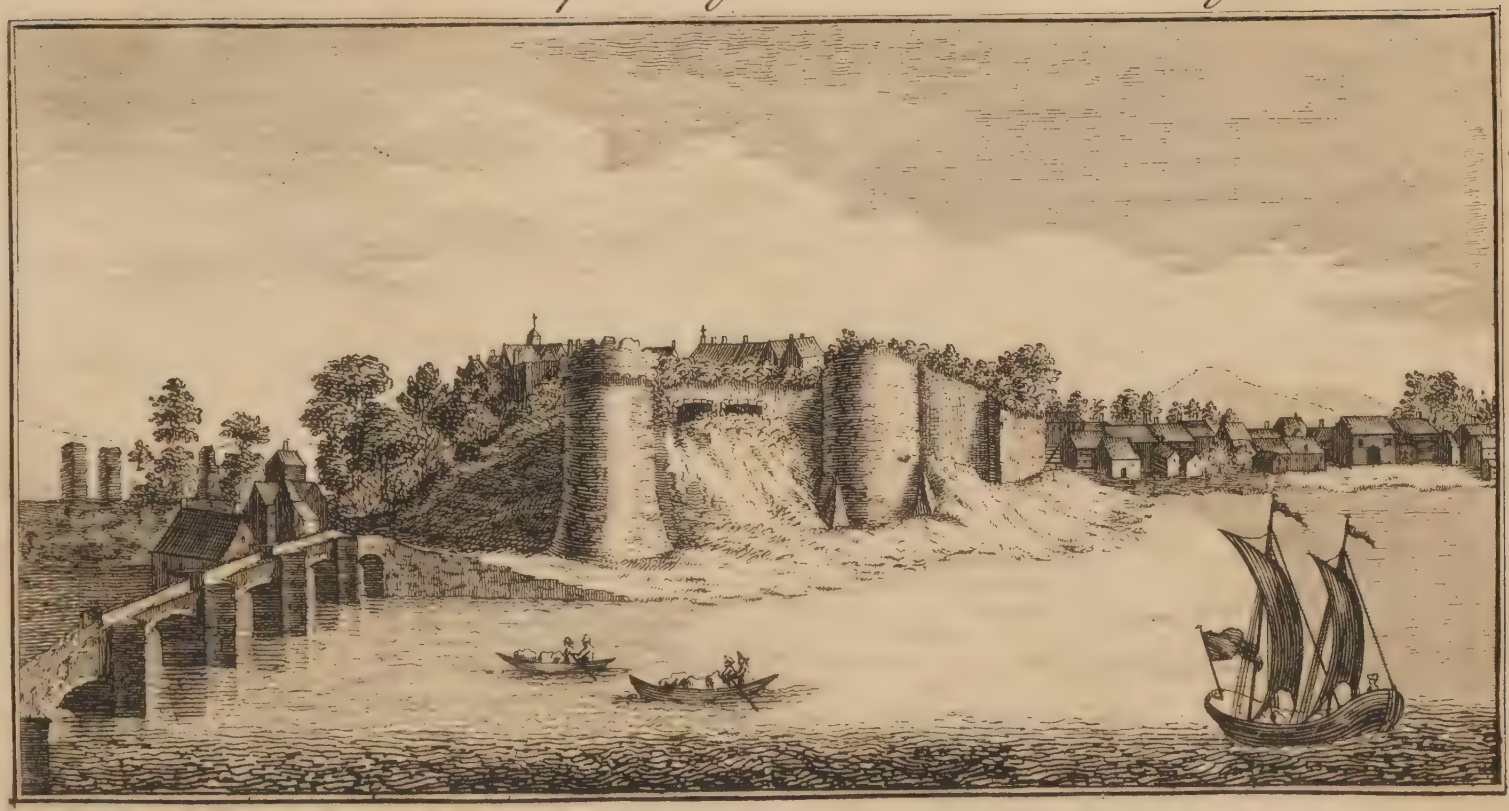
The principal rivers in this county are the Teivy, called by Ptolemy *Tuerobius*, which ſprings out of a lake called Lhyn Teivy, ſituated at the foot of the mountains in the eaſtern part of the county. At firſt it wanders without a channel, as if loſt among the rocks, till it reaches Yſtrad Flwr, then it runs regularly within its banks, paſſing by Tregaron Llanbedar, and a few miles below Cardigan falls into the Iriſh ſea. The Reidal riſes on the ſouth-weſt ſide

ſide of the Plynlimmon mountain, and running ſouth and ſouth weſt, diſcharges itſelf into the ſame part of the Iriſh ſea, as does the Yſtwyth. This laſt riſes beyond the lead mines in the north eaſt part of the county, and after running nearly in the ſame points with the Reidal, falls into the ſea near Aberyſtwith.

CARDIGANSHIRE lies in the province of Canterbury and dioceſe of St. David's. It is divided into five hundreds, and contains ſix market towns, namely Cardigan, Lampeter, Llanbadarvawr, Tregaron, Aberiſtwyth, and Lhannarth. It has 3150 houſes, and 35380 inhabitants, but it ſends only two members to parliament, one knight of the ſhire, and one burgeſs for Cardigan; though for the election of this laſt, all the market towns above-mentioned, except Lhannarth, have a right to ſend voters.

CARDIGAN, the principal town, is ſeated near the weſtern extremity of the county to which it gives its name, thirty three miles north eaſt of St. David's, and one hundred and ninety eight to the weſtward of London: it is called by the Welch Aber Teivi, from its being ſituated at the mouth of the river Teivi, over which it has an handſome ſtone bridge that leads into Pembrokeſhire. The river is navigable for ſmall veſſels, and there is a good key for loading and unloading of merchandize. Whence the name of Cardigan is derived, has not yet been diſcovered. There are ſtill to be ſeen here the ruins of a large caſtle built by Gilbert de Clare, about the year 1160, which was afterwards deſtroyed by Rhees ap Gryffyth. It is placed on the ſteep bank of the river Teivi. At this place was alſo a priory of Black Monks dedicated to St. Mary, and ſubordinate to the abbey of Chertſey in Surry

The South View of Cardigan Castle and Priory.



Vol. I. Page 285.

Surry; of the clear yearly value of 131. 4s 9d. Of both theſe an engraved view is given with this work.

This town is governed by a mayor, a recorder, thirteen aldermen, and thirteen common councilmen, of which the mayor is always one. The town-hall, at which the aſſizes are held, is a good ſtructure, the ſame may be ſaid of the church, and there is a jail for the county here. The tide flows up to the town, and there is a conſiderable trade carried on from thence to Ireland and other parts, particularly in corn and lead, inſomuch that there are annually cleared out of the cuſtom-houſe in this town to be ſhipped off, above 50,000 buſhels of wheat, barley, malt, oats, and oatmeal. This town is alſo noted for the fine ſalmon caught in its river, and at ſome ſmall diſtance from it, near Killgarren in Pembrokeſhire, the king's wear is placed. Cardigan bay is a very large gulph of the ſea, entering far into the land, ſtretching north and ſouth from Cardigan point to Bardſey iſland. It ſerves often as an excellent place of ſhelter, for ſhips uſing the Iriſh trade, and there are in it ſeveral harbours. Near this town, in the year 1136, the Welch obtained a compleat victory over the Engliſh army, commanded by Ranulph, earl of Cheſter, above three thouſand being ſlain on the ſpot, with the two barons, Robert Fitz Roger and Pain Fitz John, beſides a very conſiderable number drowned by the fall of a bridge. In this battle the Engliſh ſoldiers were ſtruck with ſuch a pannic, that they ſuffered themſelves to be taken priſoners by the very women, and the general, with a very few men, found it very difficult to eſcape. Cardigan gives the title of earl to the noble family of Brudenel, has two markets, namely, on Tueſdays and Saturdays

Saturdays, and four fairs, viz. on February 13, April 5, for malt, horſes, and pedlars ware; September 8, and December 19, for the ſame and black cattle.

About a mile to the eaſt of Cardigan lies LLAN GAEDMOR, in which pariſh is an ancient monument, which conſiſts of a ſtone of a prodigious ſize, half a yard thick and eight or nine yards in circumference. It is placed inclining; for one ſide of it is on the ground, and the other is ſupported by a pillar of about three feet high. There is another monument in Glamorganſhire ſomewhat like this, but much longer. Near this monument is another of the ſame kind, but much leſs and lower; there are five beds of rude ſtones ſcarce two yards long, pitched on the ground, as alſo a circular area of the ſame ſort of ſtones, whoſe diameter is about four yards; but moſt of the ſtones in this circle are now fallen. About ſix yards from it lies a ſtone on the ground and another beyond that at the ſame diſtance, which doubtleſs belonged to it.

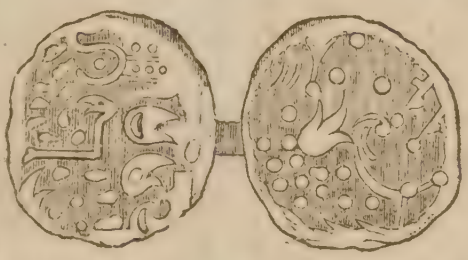
Meinu Kyvrivol, or the numerary ſtones, near *Newodh*, in the neighbourhood of Cardigan, ſeem to be the remains of ſome barbarous monument. They are nineteen in number, lie confuſedly on the ground, and have their names from the vulgar, who cannot eaſily count them.

In this neighbourhood is *Lhech y gowres*, that is, the ſtone of a gigantic woman, which is exceeding large, and placed on four very large pillars or ſupporters, about the height of five or ſix feet. Beſides theſe, there are two others pitched on one end under the top ſtone, but much lower, inſomuch, that they bear no part of the weight. There are alſo three ſtones, two of which are large, lying on the ground at each end of the monument. At ſome diſ-

tance

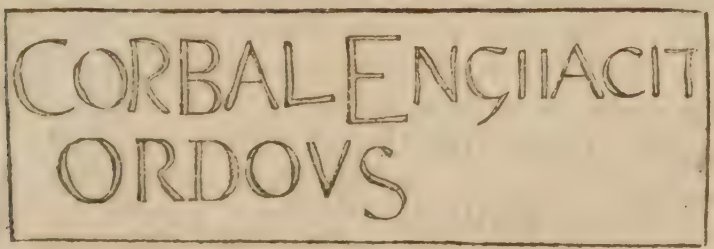
tance is another ridge ſtone, which probably has ſome relation to it. This monument ſtands on a ſmall eminence in a plain open field.

In the pariſh of Penbryn on the ſea ſhore, about ſeven miles north eaſt of Cardigan, there was found a Britiſh gold coin weighing about a guinea, which was in the poſſeſſion of John Williams Eſq; Of this coin we have annexed a cut:



From this and many others of the like kind found in ſeveral parts of Wales, it is plain the ancient Britons had gold and ſilver coins of their own, before the Roman conqueſt; thoſe of them that want inſcriptions, are always a little hollow on the one ſide, and have impreſſions different from thoſe of the Roman and all other coins; conſequently they did not learn this of the Romans.

In the pariſh of Pembryn, near the church, there was found a large rude ſtone with an inſcription, of which we have given a repreſentation.



This ſtone is as hard as marble, and now lies on the ground, though it formerly ſtood in a ſmall heap of ſtones near the ſpot: the meaning of the inſcription, which is cut very deep, is

left

left to the conjecture of the learned and ingenious reader.

LLANDYSELL, is a village on the river Teivi, about fourteen miles nearly eaſt of Cardigan, and about a mile to the ſouthward of the road; it has three fairs, viz. on February 11 and Palm Thurſday, for horſes, ſheep, and pedlars ware, and on September 19 for cattle, horſes, and ſheep.

LLANWENOG, a village about five miles weſt of Llanbedor, in the road from Cardigan, has only one fair yearly, on January 14 for cattle, horſes, and pigs.

LLANWNEN, about three miles weſt of Llanbedor, has only one fair, on December 14 for cattle, horſes, cheeſe, and pedlars ware.

TALSORN, a village ſeated on the river Ayron, five miles north-weſt of Llanbedor, has two fairs, namely, on September 8, and November 7, for cattle, horſes, and pedlars ware.

LLANBEDOR St. PETER, PONT STEFFAN, or LAMPETER, as it is often called, is a ſmall town ſeated 26 miles from Cardigan, and in the direct road from Glouceſter into this county. It is about 68 miles north weſt by weſt of Monmouth, and 175 weſt by north of London. It being built on the northern bank of the river Teivi, over which it has a bridge leading to Caermarthenſhire. Though this place has not much above fifty houſes in it, yet it is governed by a portreeve, a ſteward, and two conſtables. It is ſituated in a plain, though the church ſtands on a hill. Its market, which is on Tueſdays, is for the four months of April, May, June, and July, very conſiderable for heifers, cows, calves, and ſheep, together with ſome corn and plenty of proviſions. There are ſix fairs kept here namely, on Whit-Wedneſday, July 10, Firſt Monday in Auguſt, Firſt Monday in September, October 19, and the

the Firſt Monday in November, all for cattle, horſes, pigs, ſheep, and pedlars ware. At this town the river runs weſt, and becomes much broader; but at length it falls over a ſteep precipice near Lhan Dugwydh, and makes the famous ſalmon leap that is the wonder of theſe parts. Here people often ſtand admiring the ſtrength and ſlight the fiſh uſe to get up this cataract. It has been commonly ſaid, that there were a great number of beavers in this river; and ſome modern authors ſeem to favour the opinion, and tell us they are now ſucceeded by otters. But it is very plain, that otters in former times were certainly miſtaken for beavers; and particularly Belon, and other writers of natural hiſtory, have confounded the one with the other; for which reaſon, the members of the royal academy at Paris have taken a great deal of pains to ſhew the proper and true diſtinctions between the beaver and the otter. Hence we have not the leaſt room to doubt, but that Giraldus miſtook one animal for the other.

Hyrvaen gwydhog, in Engliſh the remarkable Coloſſus, is a ſtone about ſixteen feet high, three broad, and two thick. It ſtands on the top of a mountain a mile or two north-eaſt of Llanbedor, and is now a boundary between this county and Caermarthenſhire.

At CAPEL St. SILIN, about three miles north of Lhanbedor, is one fair annually, on February 7, for pigs and pedlars ware.

DEHEUIDD is a village about nine miles north weſt of Llanbedor, and three ſouth eaſt of Lhanarth, there is one fair here, on May 9, for pigs and pedlars ware.

LHANARTH, is a ſmall town, twelve miles north weſt of Llanbedor, and eighteen ſouth-weſt of Aberyſtwith. It has a ſmall mar-

ket on Tuesdays, and only one fair, which is held on the 22d of September, for cattle, horses, and pedlars ware.

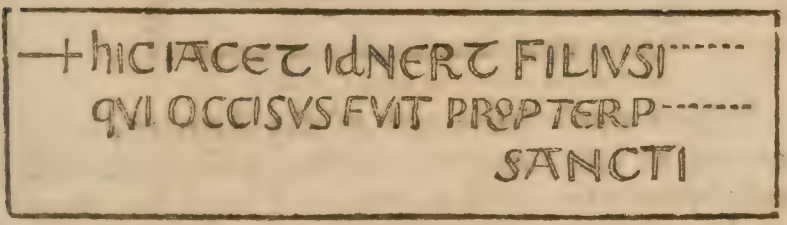
Near two miles to the south of the road which extends from Lhanarth to Cardigan, is CAPEL CUNNON, or KEN OA; it has two fairs, one on Holy Thursday, and the other on the Thursday after Michaelmas, for cattle, horses, sheep, and pedlars ware.

Besides the roads which extend from Llanbedor, on the west to Cardigan, and on the north-west to Lhanarth, one runs directly north, and another north-east to Tragarron, and from thence to the eastern extremity of the county.

LHAN DHEWI BREVI, is a village on the river Teivi, seated on the road from Llanbedor to Tregarron, and about three miles to the southward of the last mentioned town. A horn of an ox is here preserved in the church, of so extraordinary a size, that at the root it is seventeen inches in circumference, it is as heavy as stone, seemingly petrefied, and is said have been preserved in the church ever since the time of St. David, who lived in the beginning of the sixth century. This horn, if it be one, is full of large cells and holes. The church is dedicated to St. David, bishop of Menevia; and at this place, Thomas Beck, bishop of St David, founded a college, dedicated to St. David, in the year 1187 for a precentor and twelve prebendaries; its value at the dissolution was 38l. 11s. per ann. A synod was held at this place in 522, and at a full meeting St. David opposed the opinions of the Pelagians. St. Dubricius, archbishop of Caer Lheion, having assisted at the Synod, resigned his See to St. David, and betook himself to Ynys Eulhi (Bardsey island)

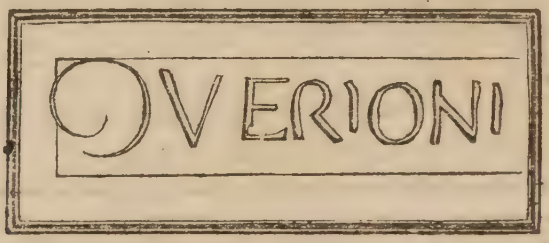
iſland) there to ſpend the remained of his life in devotion.

At the church of Lhan Dewi Brevi, the learned commentator on Camden tells us, he found above the chancel door an ancient inſcription on a tomb ſtone, and he thinks that the vacant places at the end of each line ſhould be ſupplied by adding to the firſt ACOBI, to the ſecond REDAM, and the third DAWID. A cut of this inſcription is annexed.



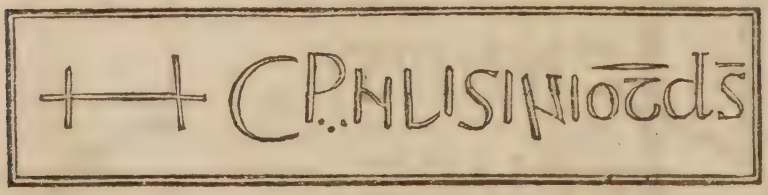
At a houſe called *Lhannio iſav* in this pariſh, about a mile ſouth of the church, is a place called *Kaer Keſtilh*, or the field of the caſtles. Here a great number of inſcribed ſtones have at various times been found by digging; but the inſcriptions were diſregarded, and the ſtones applied to various uſes, however two of theſe inſcriptions have been preſerved:

The firſt of which, repreſented in the above cut, the annotator on Camden thinks ſhould be read thus, *Caii Artii manibus (vel memoriæ) Ennius primus.* The other inſcription has as yet no reading, we have however annexed a cut of it.



Beſides the inſcriptions of the Romans, their coins have alſo ſometimes been found here, and they frequently dig up bricks, and large free ſtone neatly wrought, for which reaſons, Dr. Gibſon thinks proper here to fix Lovantinum, or Levantinum, which Ptolemy places in the country of the Dimetæ; Mr. Horſeley alſo joins with him in opinion.

Before we quit this article, we muſt obſerve that at Lhan Dewi Bevi, on a ſtone near the church door, on the outſide, is an old inſcription, which ſeems to conſiſt wholly of abbreviations; what it ſignifies we pretend not any more than others to determine; however, a repreſentation of it is annexed, that our readers may form what conjectures they pleaſe on the ſubject.



TREGARRON is a ſmall town on the ſame road, eight miles north eaſt of Llanbedor, ſixteen ſouth of Aberiſtwyth, and one hundred and ſeventy

The West View of Starflour Abbey in the County of Cardigan.

Vol. I. Page 293.

venty one weſt by north of London: it is ſeated on the Teivi, and has an handſome church, with a market on Thurſdays. It it governed by a mayor, and has only one fair, on March 5, for horſes, ſwine, ſtockings, and pedlars ware.

RHOS FAIR lies at the foot of the mountains, near the ſource of the Teivi. There are three fairs held here annually, on Auguſt 5, Auguſt 26, and October 13, chiefly for ſmall mountain cattle and horſes, with ſome wool and pedlars ware.

YSTRADMYRICK, about two miles to the ſouth-weſt of Rhos Fair, has one fair on July 2, for pigs, wool, and pedlars ware.

LHANSANFREID, is a village on the ſea-ſide, in the road between Lhanarth and Aberyſtwith, about ten miles north weſt of Tregarron, and ſeven miles north eaſt of Lhanarth; the church is about a mile to the north eaſt of the town. At this place it is ſuppoſed there was a monaſtery, and another at *Llanruſted*, about three miles to the north-eaſt of it.

At LHANELAR, a village about ſix miles nearly ſouth of Aberyſtwith there was a Ciſtercian nunnery, a cell to the abbey of *Yſtrad Flur* or Stratflour as it is commonly called. The revenues of this nunnery were at the diſſolution valued at 57l. 5s. 4d. per ann.

We now come to STRATFLOUR ABBEY of which a plate is annexed. It is ſituated about ſix miles to the ſouth-weſt of Llyn Teivi, on the river Teivi. This was formerly a place of great note, and in Britiſh it is called *Munachlog Yſtrad Flwr*, in Latin *Strata Florida*. Here Rheſus prince of South-Wales, in the year 1164, built a Ciſtercian abbey, of the order of St. Benedict, which was burnt in the Welch wars by Edward the Firſt, about the year 1298, but ſoon

afterwards rebuilt by him. Many of the Welch princes were buried here, this being in their times a venerable ſtructure, and where their ſucceſſions and acts from the year 1155 to 1270 were kept and recorded. The revenues of this abbey at the diſſolution amounted to 118l. 17s. 3d. per annum.

ABERRYSTWITH is ſeated ſixteen miles to the northward of Tregarron, and one hundred and ninety nine weſt ſouth weſt of London, and takes its name from being ſituated near the mouth of the river Yſtwith, though it may more properly be ſaid to ſtand on the Rheidal. The town was formerly encompaſſed by a wall, and fortified with a caſtle, ſeated on the river's bank: the ruins of it are conſiderable, it ſtood on an eminence, and an engraved plate of the ſhattered remains is given with this work. This caſtle, which is by tradition, ſaid to have been of great ſtrength, was built by Gilbert Strongbow, ſon of Richard de Clare, in the reign of king Henry the Firſt. It afterwards belonged to Cadwalader ſon of Griffith ap Conan, who had ſlain Anarawd prince of South-Wales, upon which Owen Gwineth prince of North-Wales, burnt it in the year 1142, to revenge his brother's death. There was a garriſon kept here for ſome time after the death of king Charles the Firſt, which the country finding to be an incumbrance, had recourſe to arms to ſubdue it; and after a tedious ſiege became maſters of it; here, as we have already in another place obſerved, a mint was eſtabliſhed by licence from Charles the Firſt, for the convenience of paying the miners.

The town of Aberyſtwith is governed by a mayor, recorder, and other inferior officers; it is a large populous place, and ſeems to have riſen ſince the decay of Llanbadarn vawr, it being

Vol. 1. Page 294.

The East View of Aberystwith Castle in the County of Cardigan.

ing in that parish, and having no church. The market on Monday is very large for corn, wool, cheese, and most sorts of provisions. One of the greatest fisheries in Wales is carried on in this place, but at least one half of the season is lost for want of a good harbour; for Aberystwith bar is often so choaked up, that the smallest vessels can neither pass nor repass, and all the vessels in the harbour are obliged to lie there, till a land flood from the rivers Ystwith Rheidal sets them at liberty. The chief commodities of this place are herrings and other fish: lead ore, wood, timber, and oak bark. In the bay are employed, during the herring fishery, 59 small sloops out of Aberystwith, and 38 more from the neighbouring places. This fishery generally begins in September, and continues three or four month. The rest of the year they are employed on the coast and Irish trade; and some few larger sloops carry lead ore, timber, and bark. On October 5, in the year 1745, forty seven fishing boats of about twelve tons each, which were as many as could get out that tide, took among them 2160 maces of herrings, which at 126 to the hundred, and five of those hundreds to the mace, amount to 136080; now if nine of these hundreds be allowed to a barrel of 32 gallons, they would make 1111 barrels, all taken in one night. This would often be the case, if there were a convenient harbour; but as it is, it supplies the middle of England with fresh herrings. During the herring fishery, they have such a glut of cod, whitings, pollacks, rays and other fish, that they value them very little.

In this bay, at Morfuback in the year 1732, a shoal of 113 bottle noses were stranded on the rocks, and left a prey to the country people, who

made great profit of them by making oil of the blubber. The largeſt of theſe fiſh was about fifteen feet long, and had a ſlug of lead in his head, he having been wounded by a gun, but not mortally. This was ſuppoſed to have been the cauſe why he was purſued by the reſt; and they hunted him ſo eagerly, that they run themſelves on the rocks. It is ſaid to be remarkable, that when one of theſe porpuſſes, or bottle noſes, is wounded, the reſt of the ſhoal will fall upon him to devour him. They come into this bay to hunt herrings, and other ſmall fiſh. The natives call them Llamhidyddion, that is, tumblers, and Pyſgodduon, that is black-fiſh; however, they are of various colours, namely, whitiſh, ſpeckled, and black; and the fiſhermen ſay, the older and larger they grow, the blacker they are.

There are alſo plenty of monk-fiſh, which grow to the ſize of a man, and frequently raiſe their heads out of the water. Some of them will weigh 160 pounds, and their ſkin is very rough, and covered over with filthly ſlime. It is uſed to poliſh wood and ivory, and goes by the general name of fiſh ſkin. The foremoſt fins belonging to this fiſh have a great reſemblance to wings, from whence they are by ſome called the angel fiſh. They are taken here in nets made of ſmall ropes with meſhes about ten inches wide. The fleſh has been generally reckoned very unſavory and deſpiſed by the country people; but Lewis Morris informs us, that it is accounted a delicious diſh.

Beſides theſe, there are blue ſharks in this bay, which grow to the length of about five yards. They are commonly accounted the moſt miſchievous fiſh that ſwim; and yet Mr. Morris affirms,

affirms, he never heard of any harm they ever did in theſe ſeas. He informs us, the liver of this fiſh almoſt fills the cavity of the body, and is ſo tender, that the heat of the ſun will ſoon turn it into oil, but as he does not deſcribe the fiſh, we are not certain that is really the ſame as the blue ſhark of other authors, who ſay it is at moſt only two yards and an half long. This is ſo voracious, that it will ſeize the legs of thoſe that come within its reach; and therefore we are inclinable to ſuppoſe that he does not give us the true name of the fiſh.

At *Llanvihangle geneu'r glyn*, not far from Aberyſtwith, we find a monument called *Gwely Taleiſin* which ſhould ſeem, from its name, to be the grave of the celebrated poet *Taleiſin ben Bierdh*, who flouriſhed about the year 540. It is four feet long and three broad, and is compoſed of four ſtones, that is one at each end, and two ſide ſtones, whereof the higheſt is about a foot above ground; we are however more inclined to think, that this, and all others of the like kind, are rather old heathen (perhaps ſepulchral) monuments, and ſtill more ancient than the time of *Taleiſin*.

LLANBADARN VAWR, about two miles eaſt of Aberyſtwith, is a place of great antiquity, tho' now much decayed. It is ſituated on the river Rheidal, and is generally thought to be the Mauritanea, where a monaſtery was built in the beginning of the ſixth century by St. Paternus, who eſtabliſhed an epiſcopal ſee here, afterwards united to St. David's. The church, which is an handſome building, is thought to have been given to St. Peter's Church at Glouceſter, about the year 1111, but it was in ſucceeding times appropriated to the abbey of Vale Royal in Cheſhire.

ſhire. The town is governed by a portreeve, has a very ſmall and indifferent harbour, with a market on Tueſdays.

This county was under the Romans, a part of the diſtrict inhabited by the Dimetæ, already mentioned in our account of Caermarthenſhire. Some have imagined that the renowned prince Caractacus governed in theſe parts, though many doubt it, as neither Tacitus nor any other ancient author mentions it.

Soon after the Normans had conquered this kingdom, they fitted out a navy and ravaged the ſea coaſts of this county, and from the time of William Rufus, got poſſeſſion of moſt of the towns, which they put into the hands of Kadugan ap Bledhin, a moſt prudent Briton. He had great intereſt throughout all Wales; and at the ſame time was much in favour with the Engliſh; but his ſon Owen proving a raſh young man, and annoying the Engliſh and Flemings, who had lately ſettled there, with continual excurſions; the unhappy father was deprived of his inheritance, and forced to ſuffer for the offence of his ſon, who was alſo obliged to leave the country, and to fly into Ireland. Henry the Firſt granted the county of Cardigan to Gilbert Clare, who ſettled garriſons in it, and fortified ſeveral caſtles. But Kadugan, with his ſon Owen, being afterwards received into favour, had all their lands reſtored; the ſon, however, raiſing new troubles, was ſlain by Girald of Pembroke, whoſe wife, Neſtra he had carried away. His father was a long time priſoner in England; but being grown very old, he was reſtored to his eſtate, yet he was ſoon after ſuddenly ſtabbed by his nephew Madok. After this, Roger de Clare, obtained the poſſeſſion of Cardiganſhire from Henry the Second, but Richard

Richard earl of Clare, his ſon, being ſlain while he was coming hither by land; Rhys, prince of South Wales, made a great ſlaughter of the Engliſh; and at laſt reduced them under his ſubjection: however, Cardiganſhire fell afterwards by degrees into the hands of the Engliſh without bloodſhed.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

CHE-